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Soviet Team Arrives for Comiso Inspection
LD2408095588 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0900 GMT 24 Aug 88

[Text] Rome, 24 Aug (TASS)—A group of Soviet military inspectors arrives here today. They will examine the NATO nuclear missile base in Comiso, Sicily. The 112 "cruise missiles" with a range of 2,400 km stationed there are to be eliminated in accordance with the Soviet-U.S. treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles.

A statement by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in connection with the Soviet inspectors' arrival says these inspections are an important aspect of the Soviet-U.S. treaty. "Each is evidence of progress toward eliminating a whole class of nuclear missiles," the statement stresses.

The Soviet military inspectors will be given an opportunity to examine the base in Comiso and to define more precisely the number of missile systems and other military equipment that is to be eliminated. On their trip to Comiso, where the Soviet inspectors will travel today from Rome aboard a U.S. military aircraft, they will be accompanied by U.S. and Italian representatives.

After completing the inspection, which will last 24 hours and may be extended for another 8 hours if required, the Soviet representatives will draw up a final document to be signed by U.S. military authorities as well.

Official Briefs Press on Nevada Test
LD2308161888 Moscow TASS in English 1540 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—"The first part of the Soviet-American nuclear test verification experiment conducted in Nevada on August 17 has shown the possibility of good business-like cooperation between experts from the two countries," Igor Palenykh, head of the Soviet delegation to the Soviet-American full-scale talks on limiting and terminating nuclear tests, told a briefing at the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Press Centre today.

The Soviet representative who returned from Nevada State on Monday recalled that the aim of the joint verification experiment was to test methods elaborated by the Soviet and American sides, that could be used in the future to verify the yield limitation of nuclear tests and, ultimately, their total cessation.

The Nevada site explosion was watched by 43 Soviet experts, including specialists from research institutes and the Defence Ministry and officials from the Foreign Ministry of the USSR.

Soviet measuring equipment installed at the test site prove to be efficient, Palenykh said.

He emphasised that the Nevada blast was only the first part of the experiment. Its second part would be conducted at the Semipalatinsk test site on September 14 when a Soviet nuclear device would be detonated.

Palenykh pointed out that the ultimate Soviet objective at the talks was to achieve the total termination of nuclear testing. This task found reflection in bilateral Soviet-American documents.

"As to the U.S. side, there is a tendency to keep silent on the ultimate objective of the talks," he added.

Article Explores Need for 'Disarmament Economics'
PM2308133188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Aug 88 Second Edition p 4

[Candidate of Economic Sciences A. Kireyev article under the rubric "The 19th Party Conference and the Problems of Peace": "Disarmament: Quest for Ways"]

[Text] Ernest Hemingway's foreword to his famous novel "A Farewell to Arms" contains the following lines: "I believe that all who grow rich from war and who help launch it should be shot on the very first day of military operations by trusted representatives of their country's honest citizens whom they are sending to fight."

These words are a painful echo of World War II, in which mankind was embroiled by fascism. Where is the guarantee that the worldwide slaughter will never be repeated? E. Hemingway offers a radical method for solving the problem, which boils down to destroying the merchants of militarism and their bloody business at the same time. But are there any other ways?

The process of disarmament which has begun in our time has raised most urgently the problem of dismantling the productive forces of war and creating not only political and legal but also economic guarantees against the resumption of a large-scale arms race. The USSR was the first of all UN member countries to come up with the proposal to draw up and compare national plans for conversion—the reorientation of the economy's military sector to peaceful purposes—which would constitute an important step along the path toward the strengthening of international trust.

So far not a single country has drawn up such a plan and approved it at the state level; not a single government has officially submitted its program for action in the economic sphere in the event of the start of large-scale disarmament. There are even doubts: Is it not too early to raise this question?

The studies in conversion, which have been carried out mostly in the West, and the initial experience in disarmament testify that it is not too early. The signing of the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, which surprised many people, proved that under the

conditions of the growing dynamics of world development, disarmament does not always lend itself to forecasting. The economy's unpreparedness to switch from a militarized to a nonmilitarized model of development is fraught with serious political and social shocks. Therefore, the majority of research workers agree that the planning for conversion, especially as regards its strategic avenues, must be done in advance and on a strictly scientific basis.

It is not hard to find in history's baggage considerable experience in the planning and implementation of conversion which might be suitable today. The postwar demilitarization of the economies of the USSR, the United States, a number of West European countries, and Japan proved that it is possible to painlessly dismantle the military sector, hypertrophied during the period of combat operations, and to adapt it to peaceful goals. Some aspects of postwar experience—prompt planning, the establishment of enterprise working groups to study opportunities for their peacetime use, state support measures—are of interest today.

But the experience of the past can be reproduced only to the extent to which past conditions recur or repeat themselves.

Today's conditions are different. A diversified peacetime war economy has been created with thousands of international production and technology links. The high demand for military output, guaranteed by the state, creates quite a few jobs. The fear of job losses through cutbacks in military orders has a far more convincing effect on very large groups of the population in the West than government assurances that their security would be consolidated under conditions of disarmament.

Attempts were made in the United States throughout the sixties and seventies to pass a conversion law which would regulate implementation of conversion at state level. Even though the bills failed to get through Congress due to opposition by the military-industrial lobby, they do contain interesting approaches to the shaping of a state mechanism to ensure conversion.

Facing the threat of dismissal, workers from Britain's transnational "Lucas Aerospace" military-industrial company developed under trade union leadership a plan, which has since become a textbook model, for transfer from military production to the manufacture of civilian output. It was based on what is still the highly promising idea of the "social utility" of alternative commodities and their ability to satisfy man's daily needs. Even though this plan was not adopted by the company management, it became a model for the development of conversion plans by workers from many other military-industrial contractors in West Europe and the United States.

Can a capitalist economy develop without militarization? At this point one recalls the "economic miracle" in Japan, West Germany, and Italy. True enough, when the "miracle" was over they turned again to militarism. It is nevertheless necessary to investigate the extent to which this turnabout was conditioned by substantive laws governing the functioning of modern monopoly capital and the role that was played by attendant circumstances—the "infectious example" of the U.S. military-industrial complex, the "cold war" conditions, the considerations of prestige, the need to have their own "military clout" so as to be able to talk to competitors in a language understandable in those circles, and the desire to back their economic invasion of the "Third World" by a strongarm policy.

In the early sixties the USSR carried out a unilateral reduction of armed forces and the corresponding combat equipment. By virtue of a special party and government resolution, all demobilized servicemen were guaranteed jobs and they were offered advantages in learning new civilian trades. Finally, invaluable experience in conversion is being accumulated at present in the course of implementing the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles: Production capacities are being readapted, missile operating bases are being refitted, and the missiles themselves are being dismantled and destroyed. But every now and then one sees in the press signs of alarm about the future of the military cadres who operate these missiles.

This is already a case of obvious lack of work by scientists. Over the past decades economic science has been dealing primarily with studies of the causes and consequences of the arms race and the militarization process. The onset of a process that is its reverse in form and essence—the process of disarmament and demilitarization—has to a certain extent caught economic science unprepared. While political and legal scientists have long been pondering the prospects of disarmament and have produced numerous elaborations on this topic, specialists in international economics have hitherto failed to offer a comprehensive concept of building an economic model of the world in conditions of disarmament; this was proclaimed by the Soviet Union as one of the most important landmarks in the world economy's restructuring on fair and democratic principles, as a substantial element of an all-embracing system of international security, and finally as the goal of the "disarmament for development" process. We are in fact talking about developing a scientifically substantiated economic mechanism for disarmament.

After all, as it was said at the 19th all-union party conference, the ensuring of states' security will switch increasingly from the sphere of correlation of military potentials to the sphere of political collaboration and strict fulfillment of international pledges, while the colossal growth of scientific and technical potential will

be utilized in a more civilized manner for the joint and universally beneficial solution of global economic, ecological, energy, food, medical, and other tasks.

Individual components of such a mechanism have already emerged in a sufficiently clear outline. These are the balanced and proportional reduction of military budgets, the implementation of the conversion of military production, the restriction and banning of the international arms trade, and the transfer of resources saved as a result of disarmament to development purposes.

Under these conditions, it would be legitimate to raise the question of the need to shape a new avenue in Soviet economic science—disarmament economics—whose purpose would be to explain from positions of new political thinking the positive changes already occurring and likely to occur in production forces.

For many years now, most of the economic problems of disarmament have been discussed at various international forums and primarily in the United Nations. The key role of conversion among them is determined by the fact that it provides the basis for dismantling the war economy and creating a peace economy, and guarantees the adaptation of manufactured output to meet social needs.

It is of course impossible to revive this neglected sphere of economic research with a single stroke, especially in view of the fact that, for many years past, Soviet economists were totally without openly published data about the economy's military sector. Consequently, deliberations about the mechanism for its demilitarization proved to be nothing more than theoretical exercises far removed from reality.

The present course of greater glasnost and openness in defense building on the basis of the introduction of legislative procedure, whereby all departments engaged in military and military-industrial activity would be monitored by the supreme nationwide elected organ of power, cannot fail to make public the military budget and the plans for defense building. It is clear that steps in this sphere must be very well balanced, since we are talking about the country's security.

The study of past experience in conversion could be supplemented by modern experience: the planning and public implementation of conversion at a specific defense enterprise, such as one of those named in the protocol to the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles. Social security guaranteed by the Soviet Constitution and implemented in the course of conversion would be the best way to combat doubts and misinterpretations.

Public organizations, primarily the AUCCTU and the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace, could organize a union-wide and maybe even an international competition for ideas about the alternative use of military capacities, combat equipment, and armed forces for civilian purposes, and it could be named after E. Hemingway's universally famous novel.

The beginning of movement along the path of conversion is that much more important now that an initial boost has been given to implementing the military-political program of disarmament outlined by the 27th CPSU Congress materials and the 15 January 1986 statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. If it were to be supplemented by a related economic program of disarmament, this would bring lofty strategic goals more closely in line with the interests of every individual and would encourage people to take a more active stance in the struggle against the arms race.

By virtue of the global nature of the problem of mankind's survival in the face of military danger, such a program would affect not only national economic structures but also the world economy and international economic relations, revealing to everyone the specific material benefits of universal disarmament and the priority of universal values over the narrow, selfish interests of military monopoly groups.

Foreign Ministry's Gerasimov Gives Briefing

Supports Independent Cyprus

LD2308140788 Moscow TASS in English 1353 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—The forthcoming dialogue between President Yeoryios Vasiliou of Cyprus and head of the Turkish Cypriots Rauf Denktas is viewed in the Soviet Union as a significant event attesting to the Cypriot leaders' responsibility for the fate of their country, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said today at a briefing in the ministry's Press Centre.

Vasiliou and Denktas will meet in Geneva tomorrow, August 24, under the auspices of the U.N. secretary general.

Gennadiy Gerasimov pointed to Javier Perez de Cuellar's considerable contribution to its organisation, stressing that the meeting inspired the hope for resuming earnest and purposeful inter-communal talks that could lead to a comprehensive solution of the Cyprus problem.

He observed that now that the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan had been signed there started the movement towards eliminating other acute regional conflicts, like between Iran and Iraq, in Kampuchea and southern Africa, and there grew the need for defusing the Cyprus problem.

To use the emerging chance in full measure, it was important that all forces that were not indifferent to the fate of Cyprus support the dialogue and the efforts undertaken by the U.N. secretary-general.

The Soviet Union, as before, was prepared to look for ways to settle international aspects of the problem and cooperate in this with other countries, said the ministry spokesman.

Irrespective of the procedure for the all-round solution of the problem, including, probably a U.N.-sponsored international conference on Cyprus, the most important thing was that Cyprus should be preserved as an independent, sovereign, united and territorially integral state pursuing non-aligned policy.

Hopes for Good Pakistani Ties

LD2308142888 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1346 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow, 23 Aug (TASS)—The Soviet Union is following with interest the first steps of the new Pakistani leadership, Gennadiy Gerasimov, Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman said at a briefing today. The new Pakistani leadership, he went on, is currently declaring its intention to help secure peace and security in Southeast Asia and to conduct its country's policy in accordance with the principles of nonalignment. Speaking at a news conference on 21 August, the present head of the Pakistani leadership, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, promised that Pakistan would fulfill the Geneva accords on Afghanistan.

"We know Ghulam Ishaq Khan well," the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman said. "Many specific issues relating to the development of mutually-beneficial technical and economic cooperation and trade between the USSR and Pakistan have been resolved with his active participation." "This gives us some grounds for hoping that the Pakistani leadership will act toward removing obstacles in the way of the development of good-neighborly relations between the USSR and Pakistan."

Supports Road Links With Turkey

LD2308163588 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1535 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow, 23 Aug (TASS)—Opening of direct motor road communication between the USSR and Turkey via the border settlement of Sarpi, near Batumi, will take place on 31 August in accordance with a recently signed intergovernmental agreement. Reporting this at today's briefing, a spokesman of the USSR Foreign Ministry noted that the step provides an extra opportunity to use the factor of the geographic proximity of the USSR and Turkey to maximum effect.

The motor road traffic through Sarpi will facilitate establishment of border trade, increased tourist exchanges, and the expansion of bilateral and later also international transportation of cargoes. "That is an important step on the road of developing good relations with Turkey," the Soviet spokesman stressed.

India Earthquake Condolences

LD2308164288 Moscow TASS in English 1548 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—The USSR Council of Ministers in a message to New Delhi has expressed profound and sincere condolences over an earthquake in northern India which claimed heavy human casualties, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told a briefing here today.

Some Nepalese areas were also affected by the tremor.

The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet sent a message to Kathmandu, expressing profound condolences in connection with the calamity.

Denies Ziaul Haq Rumors

LD2308165588 Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—Speaking at a briefing held in the Soviet capital today, the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry touched upon the rumour set afloat by the Pakistani press on the alleged complicity of the Soviet Union in the air crash, in which Ziaul Haq was killed. In that connection the Soviet spokesman said that on Monday Yuliy Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister, invited Pakistani Ambassador to the USSR Shahid Mohammad Amin, and drew his attention to the provocative character and absurdity of these fabrications.

The Soviet spokesman went on to say that the report spread by the Western news agencies—REUTER and ASSOCIATED PRESS—that an explosion took place in the Kelagay military base (at a distance of 160 km from Kabul), in which a large number of Soviet servicemen and civilians was killed, does not correspond to fact and there were no human casualties in the explosion.

Touching upon the invention of Afghan armed opposition on the alleged deportation of Afghan citizens to the Soviet Union, he said: "We are not engaged in any deportation, but Afghan citizens are sent for training in the Soviet Union." Since 1956 a total of 6,275 civilian specialists of secondary special and higher education have been trained in the USSR. At present the Soviet side every year hosts up to fifteen hundred Afghans for training.

Despite the Soviet side's refutation of involvement in the so-called "mines war" in Afghanistan, the spokesman for the U.S. State Department Phyllis Oakley said that she did not know about any considerable Soviet effort to remove mines. In that connection the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry cited some specific statistics. Mining in Afghanistan was done around the places where Soviet garrisons and posts were stationed. When the personnel and equipment are withdrawn, the minefields are totally eliminated. An evidence of this are the corresponding documents including the maps of minefields, which are passed over to the Afghan authorities. The U.N. observers in Kabul are also properly notified.

Already by late in May, out of 2,131 minefields which were laid in Afghanistan, 1,518 had already been eliminated and more than 100 turned over to the Afghan side.

Views South African Refugee Problem

LD2308203288 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1325 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow, 23 Aug (TASS)—There are 5.5 million people in southern Africa who come under the official definition of refugees, repatriates, or displaced persons (this figure has increased by 500,000 in the last year). "This situation requires the close attention and energetic action of the whole world community," Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Administration, said while commenting today at a briefing in Moscow on the course of a conference which opened in Oslo today on the position of refugees, repatriates, and displaced persons in southern Africa.

The USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman described as the main causes of the situation the apartheid policy being conducted by the RSA authorities, the illegal occupation of Namibia, the activity of the bandit units supported by Pretoria in Angola and Mozambique, and the aggressive actions of the RSA against the "Frontline States."

A Soviet delegation headed by USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoliy Adamishin, is taking part in the conference, which has been convened on the initiative of the OAU with UN support.

Supports Swedish Ecology Move

LD2308170788 Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—The Soviet Union backs Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson's initiative, advanced at the international symposium in Stockholm on the protection of the North and Baltic Seas, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told a briefing here today.

The initiative is directed at stepping up the concerted efforts of states to improving the ecological situation in Europe, and the Soviet Union is prepared to make a specific contribution to resolving this crucial task.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the ministry's Information Directorate, said that the Soviet side also backed Sweden's idea to set up in Stockholm this autumn an international institute for ecologically pure technologies.

"We intend to take an active part in its establishment and activity," he said.

"We believe that the consolidation and coordination of the scientific potential in the field of environmental protection on a global scale are vitally important in the present-day conditions."

Assesses Gulf Cease-Fire

LD2308161588 Moscow TASS in English 1536 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—"The first step was taken towards a complete cessation of the senseless war that had run for almost eight years. Hardly can one speak about the winners and the defeated—the triumph of common sense is indisputable." This is how Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, assessed at a briefing today the entrance into force of the cease-fire agreement in the Iran-Iraq armed conflict.

"Throughout those years the Soviet Union has exerted a no small effort, persistently striving to have the bloodshed ended", he said.

As Gerasimov put it, the United Nations Organisation graphically demonstrated the ability for fast and effective measures to accomplish the principal task under its charter—to maintain international peace and security. The developments related to the Iran-Iraq settlement confirm that extensive interaction of the Security Council member states and also the readiness of the parties directly concerned to use the mechanisms of unblocking regional conflicts, which are at the United Nations' disposal, are the pledge of the United Nations' successful activity in this field.

"People in the Soviet Union hope that both these exceptionally important factors will be retain [as received] their effectiveness also in the future, which will allow the U.N. military observers' mission to cope successfully with the responsible tasks assigned to it", Gerasimov said.

It was noted that the issue of ensuring the safety and freedom of shipping in the Persian Gulf should be solved in the context of the Iran-Iraq settlement. In the light of the changed situation in the region, in some European capitals they already declare in favour of the recall of their warships from the Persian Gulf, Gerasimov said.

"One would like all other countries whose ships are now stationed in the Gulf to take the same constructive position. This would be a no small practical step both in resolving the question of ensuring safety in the Persian Gulf area and in accomplishing the task of the global dimension—curbing naval activity at seas and oceans".

Soviet Aide on Need for World Ecological Action
PM2308114988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Aug 88 Second Edition p 7

[Report by A. Lyutyy: "For Ecological Safety"]

[Excerpts] Nature knows no frontiers. This simple but important notion was voiced several times Thursday [18 August] at a press conference "for international ecological safety," together with the notion that environmental pollution is a threat to our entire human civilization. The fact that the Soviet experts invited to the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center had a keen and even impassioned discussion of the problem with journalists demonstrated how exceedingly topical it is. [passage omitted]

"Worldwide spread of filth" was the apt description of the deteriorating world ecological situation proffered by F.T. Morgun, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Nature Conservation. Having made a critical analysis of the situation in the enviromental protection sphere both inside our country and in other parts of the world, he dismissed as totally without foundation attempts being made in the West to portray the USSR as a particularly persistent polluter of the environment. The facts and figures tell a different story. But that is not the point. What we need is measures, not squabbles. The ecological problem is a global one. And the elaboration of measures to prevent adverse phenomena in the world ecological situation should be conducted at national and international levels. A crisis is approaching, and in this situation resolute action, a radical change, and new ecological thinking are needed.

Citing figures on the vast sums swallowed up by the arms race in the world, the speaker voiced the opinion that military expenditure must be resolutely squeezed in order to help the environment and put a stop to the situation whereby, in comparison with military budgets, a paltry amount is spent on work in the ecological sphere. One obstacle in our way, F.T. Morgun said, is national- and international-level bureaucracy. But, at the same time, there have been important positive results in international cooperation—the banning of the use of DDT, the signing of a convention on cross-border transfer of pollutants by air currents, and the adoption of international nature conservation measures in the Baltic, Mediterranean, and other seas. The USSR, it was noted at the press conference, intends to continue actively participating in the activity of the UN environmental program and in international intergovernmental and nongovernmental nature conservation organizations.

Komplektov Receives UNCTAD Chief
LD2308211988 Moscow TASS in English 1545 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Komplektov received at the Foreign Ministry today Kenneth Dadzie, secretary-general of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

They discussed topical issues of the present-day world economic situation, UNCTAD's activity and the Soviet Union's participation in this international organisation.

Development of EEC-CEMA Relations Examined
PM2308124188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by IZVESTIYA own correspondent Yu. Kovalenko: "EEC: Pros and Cons of Integration"]

[Excerpts] Paris—In a little over 4 years the establishment will be completed of a "single internal market" of the 12 countries which make up the European Economic Community (EEC), which is now more often called simply the European Community, since its sphere of activity has long since transcended the purely economic framework.

Beginning 31 December 1992 within the EEC all barriers and obstacles to the free movement of goods, services, capital, and individuals will be removed, and any borders will cease to function. In fact, the "Common Market" set up 30 years ago, which at first consisted of only six countries, had also set itself this task. But it was not implemented in full. So it was decided to give a fresh boost to the principles of integration. [passage omitted]

The supporters of West European integration place particular stress on strengthening the political unity of the 12 EEC member countries. They attach great significance to the political decisions which will accompany the creation of a single market, in particular concerning social questions, education and protecting the environment. J. Delors proposes turning the EC Commission into the nucleus of a future European government.

Finally, there is one more aspect of integration—the military one. France and the FRG have already taken the first steps in this direction. They are conducting joint maneuvers, and a Franco-FRG brigade and defense council have been set up.

There are more questions than answers in the outlines of military integration. And one of the main ones is whether West Europe will have at its disposal common nuclear weapons. Some people believe that France and Britain will inevitably have to make their nuclear arsenals common property. But French Minister of State M. Faure, one of the most consistent supporters of across-the-board integration, told me that nuclear weapons can remain only under national control.

But how will relations between West Europe and socialist Europe develop? Life itself dictates that relations between them in diverse spheres, including the political one, should develop successfully. Gradually the concept of a "common European home," our common responsibility for the continent's fortunes, is making headway. The necessity to expand European-wide contacts and to pool efforts to resolve the problems facing mankind is obvious. But for the time being the achievements here are not great, although new features have appeared.

One of the most important was the signing of the Joint Declaration to Establish Official Relations between CEMA and the European Community, which will make it possible to expand the spheres of cooperation and place them on a treaty-based footing. At a recent meeting the foreign ministers of the 12 EEC member countries advocated examining the question of concluding an economic agreement between the community and the USSR.

The integration processes in West Europe are coming up against considerable difficulties and contradictions but they are under way and are having a growing influence on the development of political dialogue and on economic, scientific and technical, and cultural cooperation in Europe.

Pacific Ocean Symposium on Marine Science Ends

LD1908201888 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0850 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Nakhodka, 19 Aug (TASS)—The Second Pacific Ocean Symposium on Marine Sciences ended today in Nakhodka. Scientists from India, Canada, the PRC, SRV, USSR, United States, FRG, and Japan discussed the use of the ocean's resources and signed a protocol on further cooperation in the area of developing joint projects. The worsening of the ecological situation in the Pacific region alarms the scientists. Therefore, they have decided to devote their next meeting, which will take place in 2 years, to problems of the rational use of natural resources and environmental protection.

Sports Paper Reports Pre-Olympics Scene

PM2308130388 Moscow SOVETSKIY SPORT in Russian 14 Aug 88 p 1

[V. Geskin article: "Love and 313,000 Grenades"]

[Excerpts] Yes, there is now only just over a month before the opening of the Summer Olympic Games. Or, to be precise, 34 days until the formal opening ceremony. Not many days at all.

And again the sporting world pulsates with pre-Olympic fever. The calm at the end of July and beginning of August was shortlived and there is now a flurry of competitions; there are reports virtually every day of records and supreme achievements. Crucial trials are being held and final calculations made. The world's finest athletes are like mountaineers before the final assault, the Olympic peak mysterious and so alluring almost within reach. It is time to set out en route.

All sportsmen's thoughts are on Seoul. The fans' too. I form this opinion from the letters to the editorial office and telephone calls. We published a series of reports from the Olympic capital not so long ago. But this does not satisfy readers—they request, they demand that we talk about Seoul and the situation there, about what awaits our guys in a country with which we have no diplomatic relations.

Describe Seoul? I was there 1 year ago and spent 5 days as a member of the Soviet delegation at a congress of the International Sporting Press Association. I did not write about my assignment at the time; there were reasons for that: The pre-Olympic situation was vague and unclear. Much has now become clearer, and, although a year has now passed, I hope that readers will not be uninterested to read a few extracts from the diary I kept. [passage omitted]

I repeat that all this was written 1 year ago. But the situation in the south of the Korean Peninsula still remains difficult today. And the 1988 Games open in 34 days.

It will be difficult. This must be clearly understood by our Olympic competitors. But another thing must also be understood—a marvelous festival of world sports lies ahead. One hundred and sixty-one national Olympic committees have applied to take part in the Games. That is a record. It shows the peoples' desire to live in peace.

And I would like to believe that even more delegations will be at the Games. The important news of the week is that the International Olympic Committee when welcoming the beginning of parliamentary contacts between the DPRK and South Korea confirmed its proposals regarding the holding of some Olympic events in Pyongyang. And there is a new element: It is proposed that the delegations of the DPRK and South Korea march under their own banners at the Games opening and closing ceremonies, but as a single group, as a team. And that the group be preceded by the Olympic flag.

United States & Canada

U.S. Circulates Report on 'Terrorism'

LD2308183888 Moscow TASS in English 1445 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Washington August 23 TASS—TASS correspondent Andrey Fedyashin reports:

The U.S. Department of State circulated Monday another report "Patterns of Global Terrorism: 1987". The document consisting of 70 pages includes colourful graphs and charts, contains the statistics of actions which Washington describes as "international terrorism" or "state-sponsored terrorism," gives the names of organizations, mentions countries which back alleged terrorist actions, sets out the United States' "firm stand" on the problem. The authors of the document claim to be objective but the very first page of the introduction makes this hard to believe.

One would look in vain in the report for the mention of the Salvadoran "death squads", of the arbitrariness of the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank of Jordan River, the terror that bands of contras backed by the USA unleashed against the peaceful population of Nicaragua. The bloody reprisals by the racist South African regime are mentioned in passing as "a reply to the violence instigated from the outside".

The report asserts that the Government of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union assisting it are responsible for over half of the number of all terrorist incidents in the world last year. The authors see no need to bear this up by any concrete proof. What is more, they admit that the USSR has "vehemently denied any complicity". And contrary to the documented facts about rocketry shellings of Kabul causing the death of women and children, it is declared the "mujahidin guerrillas generally eschew acts of violence that put civilians in jeopardy".

The same groundless accusations of terrorism are levelled at Nicaragua, Syria, Libya, Cuba, all the national liberation organizations and movements declaring against the repressive regimes backed by the USA or against Washington's policy.

Professor of State University of Pennsylvania Edward Herman, the author of numerous books on the foreign policy of the USA, revealed a simple method by which Washington's propaganda apparatus sticks labels of "terrorism" and concocts falsehoods similar to the latest report.

If the USSR assists the PLO, then it backs terrorism and is therefore a terroristic state, as the PLO uses force against Israel, he writes in the COVERT ACTION journal. The United States renders assistance to Israel which subjects the Arabs of the West Bank to wholesale reprisals, which bombs Tunisia and PLO camps. But Israel is merely repulsing acts of terrorism. If the United States assists the Salvadoran Government which kills several thousand people a year, this is not terrorism, since murdering and torture by the state of its own citizens do not qualify as terrorism under Western notions. And if the rising population is destroyed, this population is described as "terrorist", while the governments that are the United States allies are described as fighters against terrorism when they murder people, Herman writes. He notes that such double standards of Washington are extremely advantageous for the Republic of South Africa, Israel, for dictatorial and repressive regimes in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Analyst Comments on Report

LD2308192688 Moscow TASS in English 1904 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

So, we have before us one more report by the U.S. State Department on international terrorism. The information it contains is alarming. But if the figures in the report are new, the postulates concerning the roots of terrorism are not distinguished by a novel approach.

The heads of the U.S. foreign policy establishment, posing as global arbiters who are called upon, nobody knows on what ground, to pass verdicts on other states' policy, charge a whole number of states whose policy does not suit Washington with involvement in terrorism without furnishing any proofs at that. For yet another time they lash out at the Republic of Afghanistan, alleging that it spreads terrorism to neighbouring Pakistan, certainly, with the knowledge of Moscow.

We repeat that all these absurd fabrications are not new but the fact that they in Washington stubbornly keep harping on them prompts one to think that definite quarters in the United States set as their goal not only to cast a shadow on the peaceful foreign policy pursued by Kabul and Moscow which work consistently to achieve an earliest settlement of the Afghan problem on the basis of the Geneva agreements.

Simultaneously, the compilers of the State Department report would clearly wish to divert public attention away from the question of the true causes of terrorism, that becomes ever more important and relevant. Meanwhile, these causes are an open secret: International terrorism was born and sprouts primarily because the breeding ground for it is created by the stake on force and Washington's policy of neo-globalism whose architects view almost the entire globe as a sphere of American vital interests.

The tense and unstable situation inside Pakistan has in many respects, if not basically, relation to the U.S. neo-globalist policy. This country, which was turned into an American military and strategic bridgehead in Asia, is overflowing with U.S. weapons. The formations of the

so-called irreconcilables, which were reared and armed on U.S. dollars, are based and actually act uncontrollably there. Pakistan is literally honeycombed with CIA agents, its mercenaries and accomplices who are closely linked, in part, to the powerful narcomafia with a ramified network. No wonder that the crime rate is rapidly surging in this atmosphere and scope is given to acts of terrorism.

Many people list among these actions today also the mid-air explosion and crash of the plane that carried Pakistani President Ziaul Haq. The suppositions and versions around the plane crash are more than enough. But whatever versions are put forth, what underlies the disaster is incontestably the tense general atmosphere into which Pakistan was drawn by its foreign patrons.

"Even though Ziaul Haq invariably steered the course of suppressing democracy, connived in every way with the military, was the United States' closest and most loyal ally, the Pakistani reaction evaluated the signing of the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan as apostasy", the Afghan news agency BAKHTAR points out in its commentary. "It seems that some representatives of the ruling regime would like to violate the Geneva agreements and, moreover, renounce them altogether".

Facts bear witness that the dangerous concepts of neoglobalism, designed in Washington, have not been abandoned and exactly the attempts to implement these concepts generate the self-same terrorism about combatting which the U.S. State Department is so worried. And indeed, are the actions by the Afghan extremists who bombard with American rockets peaceful neighbourhoods of Kabul not terrorism? And what can be said about such facts as threats against Nicaragua issuing from Washington or the backing the United States gives to the Israeli invaders who commit arbirary actions and terror against the Palestinian people?

And last. The report by the U.S. State Department, in which an attempt is actually made to divert attention from the true causes and culprits of terrorism with diligence which is worthy of better use, is now broadcast by the Voice of America in all languages. More recently, however, senior executives of the U.S. Information Agency spoke out when in Moscow for news media to give a truthful and impartial evaluation of the events and facts occurring in the world, for shunning the "enemy image". How can one be tallied with another? For disinformation, from whatever high source in the USIA it might originate is disinformation and nothing else. [Moscow TASS in English at 2010 GMT on 23 August retransmits this report on Kornilov's comments, rendering the preceding sentence as follows: "For misinformation, from whatever high source it comes to USIA, remains misinformation and nothing else..."]

Primakov on Cooperation in Regional Conflicts
LD2408015888 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] The Geneva accords on Afghanistan, in which the Soviet Union and the United States have pledged to do everything in their power to put an end to fighting in that country, are evidence of how much the two great powers can do to break the deadlocks of conflict. Radio Moscow's reporter has asked the Soviet expert on Eastern affairs, member of the National Academy of Sciences Yevgeniy Primakov, what specific steps the Soviet Union and United States can take to help resolve current regional problems and produce reliable guarantees that such conflicts won't break out in the future. Here is Yevgeniy Primakov:

[Begin Primakov recording in Russian with superimposed English translation] The problem is that at the regional level the United States is reluctant to treat the Soviet Union as an equal partner. On a global scale, the Americans have to do business with us on equal terms. In regional matters they have in many cases departed from this. The results have been destabilizing. In my opinion, only a code of conduct for great powers will lift the outside factors provoking regional conflicts. In the first place, such disputes shall never be used as an excuse for increasing one's military presence in this or that region. Incidentally, it is growing military presence that has made regional conflicts part of global confrontation.

As for the Soviet Union, it's determined to reduce its military presence abroad. It has said that it's ready to withdraw all of its troops deployed abroad, and would do so if the United States acts accordingly.

The Soviet Union and the United States can do a great deal to foster international machinery to settle regional conflicts, for instance that of the United Nations. We have suggested creating a United Nations naval force to guarantee the freedom of shipping in the Persian Gulf and said that we're ready to provide ships that would fly the United Nations flag. If the United States supported this idea, there would be less tension in the Middle East.

The USSR and the United States could reach agreement on proportionate cuts in arms deliveries to the areas of conflicts. Generally speaking, self-restrictions imposed by the great powers on their forces abroad, supported by other joint actions, are a necessary factor for settling regional conflicts, and the Soviet Union is prepared for such cooperation. [end recording]

That was the member of the National Academy of Sciences, Yevgeniy Primakov, speaking about regional conflicts.

Paper Notes Bush Poll Lead, 'Quayle Factor'
PM2308114188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Aug 88 Second Edition p 5

[Dispatch by unnamed own correspondent: "Quayle Factor"]

[Text] Washington, 22 Aug—G. Bush, the Republican presidential candidate, has for the first time surpassed M. Dukakis, his rival from the Democratic Party, in

terms of popularity. According to data from a poll conducted by the Gallup Institute for NEWSWEEK magazine, Bush is now preferred by 51 percent of Americans, and Dukakis by 42 percent.

The gap is quite substantial, although after the Democratic Convention in Atlanta Dukakis immediately led the vice president by 17 percent. It is hard to say whether the Republicans' chosen one will be able to consolidate his lead, but this news was clearly what his camp wanted.

Meanwhile, the circumstances surrounding the military service of Dan Quayle, the Republicans' vice presidential candidate, in 1969, have been the focus of press attention. Instead of going off to the war in Vietnam with his contemporaries, Quayle joined the National Guard in the state of Indiana, where he served. Taking into account the Quayle family's multimillion-dollar fortune, many people are now asking the question: Did the vice presidential candidate have recourse to his influential relatives' connections in order to avoid being sent to Vietnam?

The Republican Party's leaders seem to be starting to feel serious concern at the potential consequences of the "Quayle factor." Speaking on television, Senate Republican leader R. Dole admitted that the argument over Quayle could harm the party's chances of holding on to the White House.

Reagan Thanks Supreme Soviet for Greetings

LD2408061988 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0608 GMT 24 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow, 24 Aug (TASS)—The President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, has sent a telegram to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet in which he expresses thanks for its congratulations on the occasion of the 212th anniversary of the freedom and independence of the United States. "We hope that thanks to our constant efforts and mutual cooperation, we will be able to work to ensure a peaceful, free, and safe future for all peoples," the telegram says.

Northeast Asia

Japanese Defense 'White Paper' Examined

LD2408030388 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0730 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Tokyo, 23 Aug TASS—TASS correspondent Anatoliy Krasnov reports: Japan's Cabinet of Ministers today approved a "White Paper on Defense." In spite of the tendency for an easing of tension that has emerged in the international arena, this document is permeated with a spirit of militarism and envisages a further building up of Japan's military muscle. What is more, its authors are, as before, attempting to manipulate the decrepit thesis of "the Soviet military threat."

The National Defense Administration is trying to convince the Japanese public that the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the elimination of a whole class of missiles, talks on strategic offensive weapons and a series of other talks on arms control and a considerable reduction in the level of military confrontation, as well as the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan that has begun, are not decisive factors for improving the international situation.

The "hawks" from the Japanese islands see the military and political situation in the Asia and Pacific region as "a complex interweaving of relations of confrontation and cooperation between the Soviet Union, the United States, and China," and assert that "the USSR is continuing to increase its military might in the Far East," while the United States is merely making efforts "to defend its interests in the region, and also the interests of its allies."

In a move toward meeting the demands coming from across the ocean to share with the United States "the burden of military responsibility," the authors of the "White Paper" envisage a further increase in Japan's share of expenditure for maintaining the U.S. Armed Forces.

This time much attention has been paid to Japanese-U.S. scientific and technical cooperation in the area of new weapons. In particular, the joint development with the United States of a new generation fighter plane is envisaged, as well as Japanese participation in implementing the SDI program and expanded exchanges of military production technology.

Criticized in Commentary

OW2408060288 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Dmitriyev commentary]

[Excerpts] A recent White Paper on defense may become one of the classics on the so-called myth of the Soviet threat. However, its appearance at this time indicates that, just as it has been the case up to now, such a falsehood still constitutes the basis of Japanese defense policy. [passage omitted]

Numerous figures were cited in the White Paper to support such a claim, but instead of clarifying matters, these figures cover up the true situation. For instance, if we consider the fact that coastal defense ships constitute the main body of the Soviet Navy's Far East Fleet, a different conclusion should have been drawn. These ships do not have the capability to conduct activities far from the coast, and thus do not constitute a threat to anyone. The fact that the Soviet Pacific Fleet does not have an aircraft carrier or capital ship reflects its defensive nature. As for Soviet aircraft carriers, they are clearly different in function and nature to U.S. carriers. The Japanese White Paper does not contain a single sentence on these points. There is also no comparison of

the military capability of the USSR and the United States, which has aircraft carriers and capital ships in the Pacific. Moreover, the size of the U.S. Marines is 27 times that of the Soviet equivalent; U.S. multipurpose submarines, carrying cruise missiles, are 8 times those of the USSR; and carrier-borne aircraft are 3 times that of the USSR. As to strategic weapons, there is a balance between the United States and the USSR. Thus, there is absolutely no basis to claim that the USSR is aggressive. [passage omitted]

In the whole area from Australia to China, the Soviet Navy has been reducing its activities. Yet, contrary to the facts, the Defense White Paper claims there is an increase in activities.

Unlike the United States, Soviet forces in the Far East are concentrated inside or near the Soviet national boundary. The Defense White Paper takes this as but a matter of course. It also takes the fact that the United States has extended its Armed Forces even to an area close to the Soviet border for the purpose of protecting the interest of the United States and its allies as a matter of course. Then why should the fact that the Soviet Union defends its own interests near its own coastline be a subject of concern? To whom should Japan complain about the increase in tension in the Far East region?

Of course, the Japanese Government applies different standards in judging the United States and the USSR. This is no secret to anyone. However, the deceit of the recent Defense White Paper seems to have gone to the extreme. This is also true when the paper mentions General Secretary Gorbachev's peace proposals at Vladivostok in July 1986. It claims that the proposals did not bring about any changes, without citing any reason for saying so. These proposals can only be realized with an element of reciprocity on the part of the United States. The U.S. Government did not agree to any of the proposals on the reduction of naval activities and on the freezing of vehicles for the transport of nuclear weapons. Wherein should the blame for the heightening of tension lie when one party is proposing peace and the other keeps on rejecting such an offer? The White Paper blames everything on the USSR and contains statements which are completely contrary to facts. Even the British BBC is perplexed with the extremely anti-Soviet tendency of the White Paper.

Why is there a need to publish a paper pervaded with the cold war spirit and distorting facts at a time when the world situation is turning for the better? Although the White Paper touches on the abolition of INF and the withdrawal from Afghanistan, there is not a shred of objectivity in its statements. At this time, when there are prospects for the improvement of Soviet-Japanese relations, it is incomprehensible and unfortunate that an anti-Soviet Defense White Paper has been published. Recently, in response to a Japanese request, the USSR shortened the period of its military exercises in the Sea of Japan. It should be understood that slandering a neighboring country does not contribute in any way to reinforcing relations with that country in a positive direction.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Maung Maung Assumes Leadership of Burma Party

PM2308161188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Nikolayev report: "Burma: Maung Maung the New Leader"]

[Text] Citing Rangoon Radio, AFP reported that Maung Maung was elected chairman of the ruling party by an extraordinary plenum of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP] Central Committee.

In contrast to the majority of party and government leaders, most of whom are retired officers of the Armed Forces, Maung Maung is a civilian lawyer, who at one time studied at Yale University in the United States. He was elected to the current BSPP Central Committee by a special plenum of the ruling party last July.

According to UPI reports, 117 lawyers belonging to the officially registered Association of Burmese Attorneys have signed a protest sent by them to the Central Committee of the ruling BSPP and the country's government.

In addition to blaming the top Burmese leadership for the breaches of civil rights and liberties which have occurred, the document, according to news agency reports, suggests specific measures aimed at helping to stabilize the situation in Burma and paving the way to solving pressing problems. Specifically, the association's members expressed support for students' demands for the introduction of a multiparty system in the country, the conduct of an impartial investigation and prosecution of persons guilty of breaking the law during the recent mass disturbances in the country, abolition of the curfew, the release of all political detainees, and [the lifting of] bans on assemblies in Rangoon and other cities in the country.

According to observers' assessments, such a statement by a professional organization making a protest and raising doubts about the legality of the use of force by the government is without precedent in the last 25 years of Burmese history, and it became possible as a result of the mass rising by Burma's students and working people in a struggle for the democratization of their society and of the country's state and political system.

According to an AFP report, demonstrations in support of democratic reforms were held in Mandalay, Monywa, and several other cities in the country. The news agency reports that a total of more than 250,000 persons took part in them, including representatives of the Buddhist clergy, the intelligentsia, and the civil servants. Despite the continuing martial law, peaceful demonstrations

were also held in Rangoon. Additional military units were brought in to maintain order in the capital and its suburbs, but they did not prevent the holding of the demonstrations.

Commentary on Burma Leader, U.S. 'Interference'
BK2308134988 Moscow in Burmese to Burma 1030 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Unattributed commentary: "Resolving the Important Issues of Burma"]

[Text] Dr Maung Maung, in delivering his first speech as the newly-elected Burmese president and chairman of the Burma Socialist Program Party last Friday—19 August—dealt with measures aimed at improving socio-economic and political conditions in the country. In order to resolve the current problems, Dr Maung Maung noted the need to create conditions where peace and tranquility, law and order, discipline, and national unity prevail.

The multitudinous problems can only be solved under such conditions, and although the first steps have been taken, more time is definitely needed. A special commission was formed to study the demands of the people. It will prepare a report on public opinions received between now and September, and submit that report to the People's Assembly meeting scheduled in October.

According to reports, the new leader has given priority to solving the food, clothing, and housing problems and to raising the standard of living of the people. There are many reasons why economic hardships exist in the country; for instance, the bad consequences of the colonial past; the declining price of rice, the main export commodity of Burma; errors committed by past leaders; and the negative effects of receiving assistance from the West—quite evident from the pressure being applied to repay high-interest loans on time.

Burma uses one-third of its foreign trade earnings to repay these loans. According to studies, Burma's foreign debt totals $3 billion. For many years the West has been trying to exploit Burma's economic woes to economically dominate the country. It has never given up this ambition, and this is evident from the Western media reports about the current events in Burma. It can openly be described as an act of vengeance and negativism.

The decision by the U.S. Senate on 12 August clearly indicates that it wants Burma to choose the path the United States prefers. The Senate strongly criticized the methods employed by the Burmese authorities to normalize the situation in the country. Moreover, it also called on the U.S. Administration and the United States to help restore democracy in Burma. By democracy, they mean democracy as the U.S. authorities understand it. Whether a democracy that invites interference and gives orders from the other side of the ocean is suitable for the Burmese people is the question we should ask.

The Burmese people can solve their own problems. The new Burmese leader said the proposed economic reforms will also introduce changes to the political arena. Promoting democracy within the society will also enable nonparty members to join the state administrative organs. Discussions will be held and decisions will be made on measures that will enable the election of representatives who genuinely reflect the interests of the voters, as well as enable voters to oversee the work of the representatives. Guarantees will also be given to ensure openness. These are but part of the reforms to be introduced, which are in the interests of the people as well as of building peace, tranquility, and unity in the nation.

Soviet, Chinese Roles in Cambodian Problem Viewed
BK2408040488 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1330 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Optimistic forecasts on the prospects of a solution to the Cambodian problem are appearing more often in the newspapers of the Southeast Asian countries. It has been emphasized that none of the parties concerned has any doubt about the need to conduct peaceful dialogue toward this goal. Our station observer, Comrade Alekseyev, writes the following:

Frankly speaking, such a dialogue has already been held. Moreover, the first dialogue held recently in Indonesia by the four Cambodian parties clearly showed that the restoration of peace in Cambodia through national reconciliation is a task which can be materialized. What should be avoided is for any one party to monopolize the dialogue. All parties should consider the existing political situation as well as the opinion of the other side. In this connection, the restricted condition that the Cambodian opposition party tried to impose on the Phnom Penh government cannot be regarded as constructive. Such a practice runs totally counter to the idea of mutual understanding and the discreet readiness for compromise which were present during the Bogor informal meeting in July.

However, let us hope that this was just for lack of clarity. Finally, good judgment will certainly win.

We would like also to note another important matter: Although the decision regarding the political system and policy of Cambodia in the future is solely the Cambodian people's own affair, this does not reduce the role to be played by the other states, particularly regarding international guarantees for Cambodia. For example, the Soviet Union regards it as its correct duty to help, by all means, in seeking a solution to the international aspects of the Cambodian situation. In our opinion, China will also contribute quite a lot to this matter. Moreover, in our opinion, there have been specific openings for the two countries to cooperate in this matter. It is sufficient to say that China, like the Soviet Union, has positively evaluated the outcome of the Bogor informal meeting. In

a recent interview to the KYODO news agency, Zhao Ziyang expressed the hope that the dialogue of the four Cambodian parties which began in Indonesia would continue.

In conclusion, our observer Comrade Alekseyev explains: In my opinion, the issue of total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia no longer exists in the daily agenda, at least as seen by the ASEAN countries. At present, they no longer harbor any doubt on the withdrawal of all Vietnamese Army volunteers from Cambodia by 1990, as promised.

TASS-Thai News Agency Exchange Pact Requested

BK2308015788 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Aug 88 p 2

[Text] The Soviet official news agency, TASS, has expressed an interest to conclude a news exchange agreement with the THAI NEWS AGENCY (TNA), a senior Soviet diplomat said yesterday.

Acting Soviet Ambassador Boris Zhiliaev said TASS' Bureau Chief Boris Chekonin raised this issue during a meeting with Montri Chenwitkan, director of the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand [MCOT] yesterday.

Zhiliaev said that TASS would like TASS and TNA to sign an agreement to exchange news. TNA is one of MCOT's news networks.

The bilateral news exchange will promote better understanding between the people of the two countries, the envoy said.

TASS has several news exchange agreements with several countries in Asia, Europe and other parts of the world.

Last year, TASS signed an agreement with Malaysia's BERNAMA and Indonesia's ANTARA to exchange news.

"The Thai people will be able to read the Soviet viewpoints on domestic and international issues and vice versa—the Soviet people can also have access to the Thai news," Zhiliaev said.

Montri said that such an agreement must be approved by the Foreign Ministry.

Near East & South Asia

Aftermath of Events Around Konduz Reported

LD2308145488 Moscow TASS in English 1420 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul August 23 TASS—As a result of a recent attack by the armed opposition on Konduz, which had been thoroughly planned with the aid of foreign advisers, a huge material damage was inflicted on the city and its population. The attack was followed by a city-wide pillage and violence. Bandits stole from city storages 35 tons of fuel, 54 tons of food and over 50 tons of various goods. All shops were ransacked. All government offices and enterprises were destroyed. Bandits drove forcibly with them 200 girls and lynched a group of people's militia soldiers: They chopped off their arms.

A group of mutineers is retreating and hauling with them the loot to the areas of Khanabad and Eshkamesh situated 15-20 kilometres north-west of Konduz. Armed groups of irreconcilable opposition, which operated along the Pol-e Khomri-Konduz line are retreating in the western direction.

It is evident that the Konduz events had been planned as a model for future operations of mutineers in various regions of the country. The counter-revolutionary leadership in Peshawar makes now its main stake on measures aimed at uniting mutineers from various groups for the struggle against the Afghan Government. In the first ten days of August representatives of "the Alliance of the Seven" held a conference with the chieftains of bandit units of the "Islamic Party of Afghanistan" (IPA) and the "Islamic Society of Afghanistan" (ISA) of Pol-e Khomri District, Baghlan Province, and the so-called "central Baghlan" where a decision was taken to draft common plans of combat operations, to control operations of detachments and groups of extremists and to organize anti-government propaganda. Groups in Nangahar Province, held a conference with the participation of foreign advisers where they streamlined plans to step up combat operations in this area. The task was set to intensify shelling of garrisons of government troops and residential areas of Jalalabad, to raise efficiency of psychological master-minding of population and to lure to their side government employees and Army men.

To prepare more efficiently for waging combat operations against the government after the complete withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, the leadership of ISA armed detachments in north-eastern provinces of the country started establishing a united organizational structure of their detachments, as well as subunits of various arms: artillery, antiaircraft defence, engineers, communications, etc. A decision on this question was taken at a conference of ISA armed detachments in the Panjsher Gorge. Commanders of units and groups were instructed to replenish stocks of arms and ammunition and to improve systems of antiaircraft defence, communications and warning.

The IPA leadership issued an order to chieftains of its gangs operating in Parvan Province to raise efficiency of their combat preparedness for an attempt to seize power after the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. A conference of commanders of IPA armed units with the participation of foreign advisers was held in Baghram District. It discussed, among other things, plans of attacking the Baghram garrison.

Counter-revolutionary groups in Iran also stepped up their activities. A "coordination council" was set up in the city of Torbat-e Jam (Iran, 175 kilometres north-west of Herat). It is made up of representatives of the IPA and ISA branches there. The task of the "council" is to draft plans of joint operations to seize power in the country's north-western part after the withdrawal of Soviet troops. A place of importance in its work is attached to control over efficiency of propaganda materials aimed at drawing commanders of tribal units into cooperation with the armed opposition.

A U.S.-made truck with a radio station to conduct anti-government propaganda among the population of Panjsher District was brought from Pakistan to an armed ISA unit operating in Hamba [name as received] District near Charikar, Parvan Province.

On the decision of the leadership of the "Alliance of the Seven", a special group to lure Army men, party and government officials to the side of counter-revolution was set up in Moqor District, Ghazni Province. The award for luring one armed man to the side of mutineers is 50,000 afghanis and 30,000 afghanis—without arms.

Daily on Opposition's 'Crime'

PM2308125988 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Aug 88 First Edition p 5

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Lieutenant Colonel A. Oliynik "Dispatch From Afghanistan": "Konduz Liberated"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The smoke from the fires over Konduz still had not yet dispersed when motorized convoys carrying vitally important freight, including some from the Soviet Union, moved into the city. The Konduz air bridge is in constant operation. Medicines and essentials are being airlifted in to the long-suffering citizens.

The population of Konduz, like all the working people of Afghanistan, is profoundly indignant at the counterrevolution's monstrous crime. Journalists witnessed the people's warm welcome for the Afghan soldiers who had routed the rebels. On the eve of the independence day celebration and Afghan Army Day, a rally was held in Konduz.

"The looting and the killing of peaceful citizens," M. Karwal, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, said during his speech at the rally, "have once again revealed the true colors of the enemies of reconciliation, with their close links with Pakistan and the U.S. imperialists. The opposition's plan to seize power in Konduz has been foiled. The opposition has received its just desserts."

Colonel General Shahnawaz Tani, Afghan defense minister and candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, stressed in a conversation with KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's correspondent that the defeat of the rebels in Konduz graphically demonstrated to the leaders of the "Peshawar Seven" that they can achieve nothing by armed struggle—for the Afghan Army will reliably defend the Republic. This constitutes not only a major military defeat for the opposition but also its latest political failure. The minister also pointed out that the tragic events in Konduz will be a grim lesson for those local leaders who displayed political shortsightedness verging on criminal inaction. The Afghan people, the defense minister said in conclusion, will not forget the bloody terror perpetrated by the opposition in Konduz.

Afghan Opposition Shells Jalalabad City

LD2308210488 Moscow TASS in English 1424 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul August 23 TASS—Another crime has been perpetrated by Afghan irreconcilable opposition who fired on the city of Jalalabad, the administrative centre of Nangarhar Province, 12 surface-to-surface rocket projectiles. One person was killed, two were wounded and one house was destroyed.

The country's Armed Forces actively supported by the local population are continuing operations for wiping out gangs operating in various provinces of the country. As the BAKHTAR agency said, an armed group of irreconcilables had been eliminated in Arghandab District of Qandahar Province, and a large quantity of arms had been captured. An attempt has been foiled at rocketing the city of Mehtarlam, the administrative centre of Laghman Province. As a result of the operation a rocket launcher and a large quantity of ammunition to it have been captured. Eighteen militants were killed in a clash between rival anti-government groups in Parvan Province, twenty-one perosns were killed and fifteen injured as a result of a clash between rival Hikmatyar gangs in Balkh Province.

Badakhshan, Samangan, Laghman and other provinces are a scene of rallies and meetings of clergymen, chiefs and elders of tribes, representatives of public, at which unanimous support is expressed for the policy of national reconciliation and implementation of the Geneva accords.

Afghanistan's Defence Minister General Shahnawaz Tani extended congratulations and gratitude from President Najibullah to the units which participated in freeing Konduz. He presented orders and medals to soldiers and officers who distinguished themselves in fighting.

Vorontsov, Iranian Ambassador View Gulf Truce

LD2308115788 Moscow TASS in English 1140 GT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov today received the

ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Soviet Union, Naser Heirani-Nobari, at his request.

They discussed issues related to the political settlement of the Iran-Iraq armed conflict on the basis of compliance with U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

The sides also considered issues of Soviet-Iranian relations.

Press Speculation on Ziaul Haq Death Cited

PM2308105988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Aug 88 Second Edition p 6

[Yu. Glukhov article under the rubric "Echo of Events: Rumors and Facts": "President's Last Flight"]

[Text] The sun was already setting when the Pakistani Air Force aircraft took off from the runway at Bahawalpur airport and set course for Rawalpindi, where Pakistani President Ziaul Haq was returning to his residence. He had just attended field trials of the U.S. M-1 tank. The president was intending to purchase the tank from the United States, and his retinue included the U.S. ambassador in addition to his own military officers. This was their last flight.

According to eyewitnesses, a few minutes after takeoff, the aircraft unexpectedly found itself in thick smoke, flipped over in the air, and crashed into the ground.

In the Western press, the death of President Ziaul Haq is increasingly assuming the nature of a political sensation. A subject for a detective story is unfolding, and versions of events are being advanced one after the other... A bomb had been placed on the aircraft... It was downed by an antiaircraft missile... It collided with another aircraft...

There was sabotage—for the time being this is the Pakistani side's sole conclusion.

Meanwhile, in addition to Sherlock Holmesian conjectures, fabrications about the tragic air crash that are simply absurd in terms of both tone and content are also appearing in the Western press. It was strange to discover them even in the pages of the respectable British newspaper, THE TIMES. "If it is proved that the president's aircraft crashed as the result of a bomb explosion," we read in a leader, "considerable suspicion will fall on the Afghan Communists and their Soviet supporters."

What does this passage mean? Does it attest to incompetence and ignorance of the situation in Pakistan or to malicious intent and a desire to poison the mood and cast aspersions on the colossal efforts which Afghanistan and the Soviet Union are making to normalize the situation in the region and to fulfill the Geneva agreements?

I believe the latter. The British with their imperial nostalgia follow attentively everything that happens in their former colonies. They cannot fail to have known about the explosive political atmosphere now reigning in Pakistan.

I will remind you that General Ziaul Haq acceded to power in 1977 after succeeding in a coup d'etat. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the country's former prime minister and leader of the Pakistan People's Party, was removed by him and later executed, despite appeals by the world public. A military dictatorship was established in the country. Only in 1985 did the generals abolish the military regime and share power with a civilian administration. However, the "honeymoon of democracy" did not last long. At the end of this May, Ziaul Haq dissolved the National Assembly and the civilian government, which had both begun to escape his jurisdiction.

The dissolution of the National Assembly and the scheduling of new elections in November failed to defuse the situation. To judge from reports, discontent persisted in Army circles, which did not want to continue sharing power with civilian circles. There was growing mistrust on the part of those political leaders and forces which had cooperated with the regime and been deceived. The open opposition headed by Benazir Bhutto, daughter of the late Bhutto, was awaiting revenge.

In the opinion of France's LIBERATION, the president's death is the possible result of an internal political struggle in Pakistan. If we are talking of a terrorist act, it could even have been carried out by figures in his immediate entourage. It is an open secret, the newspaper continues, that the president's hardline policy did not enjoy the unanimous support of the Pakistani leadership or even of military circles.

"In the wave of fabrications and rumors, the most likely explanation for the incident may be that discontented representatives of the country's Armed Forces placed a bomb on the aircraft," the FINANCIAL TIMES believes. "There is no confirmation for this. However, servicemen had access to the presidential aircraft." THE GUARDIAN writes in turn: "Ziaul Haq never made a trip without stringent security measures, which he basically relied on the Army to implement."

For the time being, these are all conjectures and suppositions. But there are also obvious truths. If a conclusion of sabotage is confirmed, it is quite natural to assume that Ziaul Haq was a victim of his own policy. It was he who let the genie of terrorism out of the bottle. Dozens of bases are operating on Pakistani territory, where inveterate cutthroat terrorists are trained before being infiltrated into Afghanistan. But what does turning the country into a hotbed of terrorism mean? It means subjecting it to an epidemic of terror.

I believe that the United States played a fateful role in Ziaul Haq's destiny. It was the United States which prevented Pakistan from emerging from its chronic crisis situation and achieving stabilization. Under U.S. pressure, the country was drawn into the undeclared war against Afghanistan.

To judge from recent reports, they still intend to keep that country in check, just as before. "It is proposed," THE WASHINGTON POST writes, "that Pakistan will continue close cooperation with the Reagan administration and retain its role as the main channel for U.S. arms deliveries to the rebels fighting the Afghan regime." They want to keep Pakistan in harness to a discredited policy.

How will this end? There is a sinister natural law concerning the fate of leaders who have allowed themselves to be tied by the fetters of the United States. The shah of Iran fled his country and was unable to find refuge until his death. President Marcos of the Philippines ended up just such an outcast. President al-Sadat of Egypt was shot at a parade. Now Ziaul Haq has died.

India's Reaction Noted

PM2308113588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Aug 88 Second Edition p 1

[Own correspondent V. Korovikov dispatch under general heading: "Pakistan Today"]

[Text] Delhi, 19 Aug—The death of President Ziaul Haq and its political consequences for Pakistan and the entire region are at the focus of attention by the Indian public and mass media. It is reported that the Indian Government delegation to Ziaul Haq's funeral will be headed by R. Venkataraman, president of the Republic. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi visited the Pakistani Embassy in Delhi yesterday. He made the following entry in the book of condolences: "India and Pakistan are linked by countless historical and cultural bonds. India hopes for the creation of healthy friendly relations with its neighbor."

There are the most diverse forecasts and comments. A. Venkateshvaran, former secretary of the Indian Foreign Ministry, writes in the newspaper INDIAN EXPRESS that a new chapter has begun in Pakistan's history and that new opportunities have emerged to change its relations with India.

An editorial article in the newspaper PATRIOT voices the opinion that even though the democratic movement in Pakistan might be revived, especially if the parliamentary elections scheduled for 16 November are held, "there are no serious grounds to believe that the Army's political role would be significantly diminished. On the contrary," the newspaper writes, "the Army could actively intervene in political affairs under the pretext that this is the only alternative to the onset of chaos in the country."

Much space is devoted to Pakistan's relations with the United States, the Afghan problem, and the Geneva agreements. Washington is clearly worried by the death of the general, who was a tested U.S. ally. The U.S. Administration's main concern is to retain Pakistan within its orbit as an important military-strategic bridgehead in South Asia. The Pentagon and the CIA are also worried about the future of the Afghan opposition, which was backed by the late president. On the whole, Indian observers note, the question is whether Pakistan will remain a frontline state upholding U.S. interests as it did under Ziaul Haq, or whether it will start taking a more independent stance, thinking more of its national interests. The scale of the U.S. military-political presence in Pakistan can also be judged by the massive deliveries of modern weapons, Pakistan's role in the Afghan crisis, and the effect of Pakistani-U.S. ties on all of South Asia and especially on Indo-Pakistani relations.

The general opinion is that Pakistan is on the threshold of difficult times. At the same time, the decision announced in Islamabad that the parliamentary elections will be held is perceived here as a promising sign testifying that the Pakistani authorities are giving serious thought to the problems of the country's stability and its future.

Notes Exchanged Marking Relations With Jordan

PM2308110088 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Foreign Ministry and Jordanian Foreign Minister T. al-Masri exchanged congratulatory telegrams on the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Jordan.

The Soviet Union, the USSR Foreign Ministry telegram notes, values highly the relations of friendship, mutual respect, and equal, mutually advantageous cooperation that have become established between our countries and peoples. Our collaboration, which accords with the imperatives of today's dynamically developing world, promotes the normalization of international relations and the establishment of the new political thinking.

The telegram expresses confidence that friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Jordan will continue to improve for the sake of the two countries' peoples and in the interests of strengthening peace, the elimination of the threat of nuclear disaster, and the speediest attainment of a just Near East settlement.

The Jordanian foreign minister's telegram stresses that in a short space of time, Soviet-Jordanian relations have undergone rapid, dynamic devleopment and have been marked by important achievements in the political, economic, cultural, and other spheres. The friendly Soviet Union, the telegram says, adheres to a firm, principled stand concerning Arab problems, especially

the problem of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict, and consistently seeks the attainment of a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace in the Near East region. Jordan places the highest value on the policy of restructuring pursued by the friendly Soviet Union in the interests of creating a more favorable climate that will promote the settlement of international problems and the strengthening of international peace and security.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Adamishin on Southern Africa Refugees' Plight

LD2308220588 Moscow TASS in English 2110 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Oslo August 23 TASS—Anatoliy Adamishin, deputy foreign minister of the USSR who heads the Soviet delegation at an international conference on the plight of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in southern Africa, currently in session here, today met Reiulf Steen, vice-president of the Storting (parliament) of Norway, and leaders of the parliamentary groups of Norway's main political parties.

He informed them about the way perestroyka (restructuring) is proceeding in the USSR, the promotion of democracy and openness and also on the Soviet Union's approaches to issues of cooperation in the humanitarian field. On the same day, Adamishin gave a news conference for Norwegian and Soviet journalists in Oslo.

Touching on the problem of refugees in southern Africa, the Soviet representative emphasized that the South African racist regime destabilizes the situation in the region. Pretoria's policy, which is aimed at oppressing the country's indigenous population, the ongoing occupation of Namibia, the persecution of the ANC [African National Congress] and SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization], military aid to the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] anti-government group, threats issued against Angola and other "Frontline" States only aggravates the situation in the south of Africa and together with it the problem of refugees, he said.

The USSR advocates the quest for fair ways to solve the problems of the region. The Soviet Union views the United Nations as a key instrument of disentangling the "African knot".

Joint Fisheries Agreement Reached With Angola

LD2308123688 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1805 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow, 22 Aug (TASS)—The first Soviet-Angolan joint fisheries enterprise will be set up in Angola by the end of this year. Plans for setting it up were discussed during a visit to the USSR by Franciso Jose Ramos da Cruz, fisheries minister of the People's Republic of Angola. He took part in the work of the 12th session of the Soviet-Angolan branch commission, which was held in Moscow and in Riga (the capital of the Latvian SSR).

The two sides summed up the results of cooperation between fishermen of the two countries over the last year, and outlined plans for continuing its expansion. An analysis was made of the activities of the joint Soviet-Angolan fishing expedition, which, for a number of years, has been fishing off the Angolan coast, thus playing an important role in supplying the country with fish products. A joint enterprise with a broad program of activities will be set up on the basis of this expedition. Agreement was also reached on trials of reprocessing Angolan fishermens' catches on board Soviet floating fish factories.

A great deal of attention was given to cooperation in organizing fishing cooperatives in Angola. The Soviet side will supply fishing tackle and auxiliary equipment, and will send specialists on tours of duty. The commission also outlined plans for joint scientific research projects and training in the USSR for Angolan specialists.

It is planned to hold the next commission session in Luanda next February.

Government Sends Condolences to Sudan on Flood

LD2408024188 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1950 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has sent Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, prime minister of the Sudan, a telegram saying: We express our profound condolences to you and to the Sudanese people in view of the natural disaster of torrential rains and flooding which has struck the Sudan, resulting in casualties and destruction.

Briefs

Radio, Television Pact With Senegal

Yesterday an agreement was signed in Moscow between the Soviet Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and the equivalent body of Senegal. Matters relating to a future exchange of television and radio information were also discussed, as were specific ways of cooperating in organizing the work of visiting correspondents. [Excerpt] [*LD2408040088 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0230 GMT 23 Aug 88*]

East Europe

Further Reportage on Polish Labor Strikes

Spokesman Gerasimov 'Concerned'

LD2308182188 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] In Moscow during a meeting with journalists Gennadiy Gerasimov, spokesman of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was asked about the Soviet attitude

toward events in Poland and Czechoslovakia. At first Gerasimov told the questioner to speak to the authorities of Poland and Czechoslovakia, but later he added that the Soviet Union obviously is very interested in and concerned about these events.

PZPR Politburo Call Noted

LD2408091388 Moscow TASS in English 0835 GMT 24 Aug 88

[Text] Warsaw August 24 TASS—By TASS correspondent Valeriy Volkov:

After examining social, political and economic situation in Poland, the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP) at its regular meeting on Tuesday expressed its respect for and gratitude to members of the party and its activists, executive personnel of enterprises and millions of working people who maintained and maintain a patriotic and civic stand in a difficult period for the country.

Difficult living conditions, substantiated criticism and demands addressed to the authorities, says a communique of the meeting, cannot justify violations of law, creation of hinderances to production, operation of transport and trade exchange with foreign countries.

At present a threat has developed to normal functioning of the economy and the state. Economic damage is piling up. Poland's prestige and economic confidence in Poland in international relations suffered substantially.

The Politburo approved a letter to all party members, charging party organs, organizations and all party members to counter attempts at staging wildcat strikes, to display feelings of responsibility for the state of their own enterprises and the national economy as a whole and to be guided by principles of legality. It is necessary, the letter points out, to stand on guard of reforms, to wage struggle against bureaucracy and to protect real interests of the working class and all workers. The Politburo calls for active participation in tackling problems which become a source of social tension and in initiatives with a view to restoring a normal situation at enterprises and public law and order.

The Politburo took a decision to call the 8th plenary meeting of the PUWP Central Committee in the nearest future.

Polish Minister Kiszczak Cited

LD2308171288 Moscow TASS in English 1617 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—At its meeting here the Polish Council of Ministers expressed concern about the growing damage done by the unlawful strikes at a number of the country's plants. The report on the cabinet meeting printed in the Polish press today says that by August 20 this year the mines, where strikes are being currently held, have failed to produce more than 200,000 tons of coal. The national daily coal output has declined by almost ten per cent. The supplies to foreign partners have already fallen 60,000 tons of coal short of the target figure. The total sum of the losses is nearly 3,000 billion zlotys.

The Polish Council of Ministers emphasized that if strikes continue, this will adversely affect the implementation of the programme for economic restructuring, tell on the supply in the home market and undermine Poland's prestige as a trade partner.

Speaking on Polish television, Czeslaw Kiszczak, member of the Political Bureau of the Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee, Polish minister of internal affairs, stressed that the current events are clearly directed against the course, atmosphere and prospects of the process of national accord and may seriously hamper it or even reduce to a nought. Opportunities for continuing and broadening a constructive dialogue would be provided by ending excesses, above all unlawful strikes. A real threat has emerged in recent days to the vital interests of the country's economy and security, the supreme benefit of the people. Laws are again being violated and the ghost of wilfulness and anarchy is reappearing.

Unlawful strikes are held today at 11 coal mines and 9 other plants. The strikes were started and are supported by small groups of workers. Thus, for example, some 5,000 persons on strike in the territory of eleven mines have made impossible the work of a personnel of more than 65,000. In most mines, whose workers are on strike, there have been formed groups of militants armed with all sorts of dangerous tools and even bottles with petrol. Overt and covert instigators of these actions do not hesitate to create a situation, in which things may reach the point of bloodshed.

Along with unrealistic economic claims political demands are often put forward. The minister recalled the statement by the Polish Government that in the same way as there is no return to the situation prior to August 1980, there can be no return to the situation of 1981. The people have gone through sufficiently many bitter trials to be able to tell a workers' protest from unrestrained wilfulness.

The Polish authorities, he stressed, have the constitutional duty to take care of the country's integrity, prestige and sovereignty, to ensure the basic discipline, security of citizens and protection of a normal functioning of the economy and the state. In that connection the minister touched upon the decisions taken by him. The militia have been ordered to tighten the outside protection of the corresponding plants, not to allow a further stay in the territories swept by strikes of the persons who have nothing to do with that territory and plant and are engaged in activities doing damage to the society. The Katowice, Szczecin and Gdansk Voivodships have been

ordered to impose a curfew in certain territories where the threat to the security of citizens emerges. Orders have been given on enhancing criminal responsibility in cases of serious violations of order and security.

Depending on the further development of the situation, measures will be taken in accordance with law. Poland shall not become a country of lawlessness and anarchy, the minister stressed in conclusion.

Urban News Conference Reported

LD2308194788 Moscow TASS in English 1852 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Warsaw August 23 TASS—Illegal strikes by part of the work collectives of 12 coal pits were continued in Katowice province today, PAP news agency reports. In most cases groups of extremists and young workers occupied administrative buildings, barring from pits' territory numerous miners who want to resume work. Concern over the threat which strikes pose to the process to resume coal production and to enterprises' property is increasing among broad masses of the working people.

A curfew that restricts the freedom of movement between 23:00 and 5:00 was clamped on the territory of the city of Jastrzebie Zdroj, a center of strike actions, on an instruction from the Katowice governor.

Part of the workers at Szczecin Port, at the Gdansk ship-building yard and several other enterprises continue to observe the strike.

A one-day illegal strike at a car repair plant in Wroclaw was called off today, PAP reports. In Szczecin the strikers who occupied two tram shops and one bus station vacated them under pressure from those who wanted to resume work and following interference by militia. So, normal traffic began running again on several routes. The rest lines [as received] are serviced by buses sent from other cities.

Jerzy Urban, press spokesman of the Polish Government, said at a press conference today that 49 people were detained in recent days in conjunction with the illegal strike actions. Most of them were set free following warning talks with them.

Evaluating the situation in the country today, the press spokesman of the Polish Government said that the process of sweeping reforms being enacted in the country lately and a successful development of the political dialogue with all those who hold divergent views sparked anxiety among those persons who would like the recurrence of the past.

In most cases strikes are inspired by Solidarity leaders of 1981. The staff of this association numbered 40,000 at one time, nearly four times as large as the staff of the former Central Council of Trade Unions, Jerzy Urban went on. Part of these 40,000 people live on dollar handouts by the West. Now these functionaries settled in various parts of the country and, exploiting the grave economic situation, exert every effort to incite groups of the working people to strikes.

The second shift of miners decided to return to work at Andaluzia mine in Katowice Province, PAP has just reported. The miners put down barbed-wire entanglements erected by strikers and entered the territory of the mine.

Increasing 'Dissatisfation' Noted

LD2308191788 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Correspondent Vasiliy Lesovik report from Warsaw]

[Text] The so-called sit-in strikes at a number of mines of the Katowice Basin have already lasted 1 week. Work has been suspended at some of the country's other enterprises. Groups of 150-800 people are active at each of these mines, blocking off the approaches to the enterprises.

As General Czeslaw Kiszczak, the country's minister of internal affairs, noted in his speech on television, the active strikers, who account for 7 percent of the total number of workers, prevent 65,000 people from starting work. The minister cited instances of psychological pressure, threats, and even physical violence applied to those who do not support the strikers.

Attempts have been made by some initiators of the strikes to extend the sphere of their influence, to spread the strikes to other cities, such as Gdansk, Wroclaw, and Poznan, and thus to start a chain reaction with a distinctly political flavor.

This was noted by Jerzy Urban, the Polish Government's press spokesman, at a news conference which took place today.

The strikes in most cases, the press spokesman said, are being instigated by chiefs of the former Solidarity. Those functionaries have been traveling the country, manipulating groups of workers wherever possible in order to cause strikes. I believe, he emphasized, that a serious situation has emerged in Poland in the area of the economy, which professional ringleaders of the opposition are seeking to politicize.

A cabinet session has taken place, stressing that continuation of the strikes would negatively affect the implementation of the reform program in the country, as well as the level of provision of the domestic market with commodities and food. In conjunction with the situation that has arisen a number of measures have been taken to ensure discipline, public safety, and the normal functioning of the economy. A curfew [militseyskiy chas] has been imposed on Katowice Voivodship, Szczecin, Gdansk, and Poznan. Measures have been taken at the

enterprises where stoppages are taking place against the persons who are in no way associated with those collectives but who are engaged in provocative activities among them.

In conclusion, I would like to note that concern and dissatisfaction with the existing situation, the continuing strikes, have been increasing among wide strata of the Polish population. Representatives of the working people and the intelligentsia have demanded that the government take more specific and resolute measures to end the illegal actions by groups of adventurers who seek to plunge the country into chaos.

Polish Press Drawn to 'Unrest'

LD2408083988 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0104 GMT 24 Aug 88

[Text] The attention of the Polish media has been drawn to the continuing social unrest in the country. Reports have been published in the press that by 20 August, the mines at which strikes are taking place failed to extract more than 200,000 tonnes of hard coal. Nondeliveries to foreign partners have already exceeded 60,000 tonnes of coal. The overall value of losses is about 3 billion zlotys.

Meanwhile, in Katowice district, illegal strikes by sections of labor collectives continue at 12 mines in the coal basin. In the main, groups of extremists have occupied buildings and are not allowing numerous miners who want to resume work onto the premises of the enterprise. Strikes by some workers continue in Szczecin port, at the Gdansk shipyard, and at a number of other enterprises

Reports From Warsaw

LD2308202888 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 23 Aug 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video reportage from Warsaw by Yu. Ulyanov]

[Text] A tourist who happens to be in the Polish capital today will hardly notice anything unusual or extraordinary. At the same time the main topic of discussion on the streets, on public transportation, and in the stores is first and foremost the continuing strikes at the pits of the Katowice coal basin, in the port of Szczecin, and at some other Polish enterprises. What is so peculiar about the present social explosion? [video shows gathering of workers in front of a pit, displaying a Solidarnosc banner] It lies first and foremost in the complete absurdity of the strikers' demands. For example, an increase in wages more than double the country's average or the establishment of pensionable age from age 38. [video shows close-up of workers engaged in discussion with a man standing on the outside of a barrier, a close up of another banner which reads "Strajk Solidarnosciowy"]. But one gets the impression that the strike organizers do not reckon on these demands being met. [video shows large poster draped over a gate and fence of the pit, a few people standing behind this poster]

Their objective is to destabilize the situation in the country and to damage the national economy. [video shows another banner on a closed entrance gate which reads "Strajk Ocupacyjny", a wall behind carries signs "Chwala gornikom" and "Strajk"] There is nothing surprising here. After all, the strike at the Julskiy Manifest mine, for example, has been headed since its very beginning by Jan Gorny, former activist of the nonexistent so-called Solidarnosc trade union, who has nothing in common with a profession of a miner. [video shows an administrative building and the entrance to another pit bearing an incomplete sign, men sitting idle, and idle coal trucks; the next shot shows a building with a sign "Morcinek" on the top, men standing behind a fence talking to a group of men and women standing on the other side] To his assistance hurried the famous Solidarnosc leaders: Jan Litynski; Bogdan Lis, emissary of Lech Walesa, has arrived from Gdansk; and Tadeusz Jedynak has arrived by air from faraway Australia.

You can see how they and activists similar to them, in many cases criminals, are fighting their way through to the enterprise on strike. [video shows a group of men fighting their way gainst a few uniformed men through a narrow gate] For them the main thing is the reinstatement in law of Solidarnosc, which has long compromised itself, and not the interests of the working people. [video shows a group of workers pinning up a leaflet on the wall, another Solidarnosc banner] Incidentally, the miners' strike headquarters is in the house of the priest of the Holy Virgin Mary Church. [video shows distant shot of two priests]

At the news conference in Warsaw, journalists were told about the steps which are being taken by the authorities to normalize the situation in the country, about the convocation in the next few days of a Sejm extraordinary commission, and about the forthcoming plenum of the PZPR Central Committee. [video shows a news conference in progress, Jerzy Urban speaking]

The Polish minister of the interior said clearly on television: We shall not allow Poland to become a country of lawlessness and anarchy.

It cannot be said that the strikes have become general. At each pit 600-1000 people express their wish to work. But they are threatened with punishment by the picketers who are armed with sticks and bottles filled with gasoline. [video shows men carrying sticks]

The working people of People's Poland received with anguish the news about the continuing strikes.

Activities of Romanian Ambassador Reported

Suggests 'Direct Contacts'

AU2208125888 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 18 Aug 88 p 1

[RATAU report: "Reception of the Romanian Ambassador"]

[Text] On 16 August V.A. Masol, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Council of Ministers chairman, received Ion Bucur, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Socialist

Republic of Romania to the USSR, who was in Kiev. During a friendly conversation, the ambassador was briefed on the processes taking place in the republic after the 27th CPSU Congress. It was stressed that particular attention had been given to the social sphere and to providing the population with foodstuffs. V.A. Masol also tackled problems concerning the perfection of the structure of the national economy in line with the directives of the 19th all-union party conference and the July (1988) CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

The Romanian leadership, the ambassador said, pays much attention to the development of relations with the USSR, primarily in the economic field. The part of the Ukrainian SSR involved in the development of Soviet-Romanian cooperation is significant. In the visitor's opinion, it is possible and necessary to look for new reserves for raising the level of the mutually beneficial cooperation, including along the line of direct contacts.

The participants in the conversation also touched upon other issues of interest for both sides.

Participating in the conversation were K.P. Boyko, affairs administrator in the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers, and N. Nitsu, acting consul general of the Socialist Republic of Romania in Kiev.

Tours Kiev 15-16 Aug

AU2208125988 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 19 Aug 88 p 3

[RATAU report: "The Romanian Ambassador's Visit"]

[Text] On 15-17 August I. Bucur, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Romania to the USSR, was in Kiev. He was received in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Council of Ministers.

The visitor held talks in the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ukrainian Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries.

The Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs gave a luncheon in honor of the ambassador.

I. Bucur participated in a solemn meeting held by representatives of Kiev working people on the occasion of the day of the liberation of Romania from the fascist yoke, and of the 44th anniversary of the antifascist and anti-imperialist revolution, of social and national liberation. He visited the Kiev lathe building production association, inspected the Ukrainian State Museum exhibition of the History of the Great Patriotic War 1941-45, toured the city, and familiarized himself with its architectural and historical places of interest.

The ambassador was accompanied by N. Nitsu, acting consul general of the Socialist Republic of Romania in Kiev.

Meeting Marks Romanian Holiday

PM2308154188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Aug 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Devoted to the Holiday"]

[Text] The August 1944 revolution opened up before the Romanian people the way to eliminating oppression and exploitation and to building a socialist society. A ceremonial meeting of representatives of the capital's working people held in Moscow on 22 August was devoted to the day of Romania's liberation from the fascist yoke, the 44th anniversary of the antifascist and anti-imperialist revolution, and of social and national liberation.

It was pointed out in the report by A.I. Lazarev, deputy chairman of the Soviet-Romanian Friendship Society Central Board and USSR deputy minister, and in speeches that the antifascist armed uprising was of tremendous significance for the country's development. Over a historically short period, as a result of the people's selfless labor, Romania became an industrial-agrarian state with a modern industry, a developing agriculture, and science, education, and culture.

The new society is being built, it was pointed out at the meeting, in cooperation with the USSR and the other socialist community countries. Production specialization and collaboration, the setting up of direct production ties, and the organization of joint enterprises have become the leading trend in bilateral economic contacts. The close ties between the CPSU and the RCP and meetings and talks at the highest level play a determining role in broadening and deepening Soviet-Romanian cooperation.

I. Bucur, Romanian ambassador to the USSR, spoke of the way the country's working people are resolving socioeconomic development tasks. He expressed the conviction that relations between Romania and the Soviet Union and between the fraternal parties will continue to develop and strengthen for the good of our peoples and the cause of socialism, progress, and peace.

Participating in the meeting were G.S. Tarazevich, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; G.G. Vedernikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; leaders of a number of ministries and departments; and representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations.

A delegation of the Romanian-Soviet Friendship Society was present.

West Europe

Turkish Inspectors Arrive To View Exercise

LD2308121388 Moscow TASS in English 1140 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—The Turkish Government applied on August 21 for an inspection on Transcaucasian territory in connection with an exercise of

Soviet troops. The Soviet Union notified all states participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in July 1988 of the planned exercise.

Guided by the document of the Stockholm Conference and the interests of strengthening trust and security in Europe, the USSR promptly considerd the application and gave a positive reply to the Turkish side.

A group of our Turkish inspectors arrived in the USSR on August 23 and began the inspection in the region indicated in the application.

Joint Norwegian Environmental Commission Opens
LD2308231788 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1320 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Oslo, 23 Aug (TASS)—The first session of the mixed Soviet-Norwegian commission for cooperation in the field of the environment opened here today. The commission was created under an agreement between the USSR and Norway on cooperation in protection of the environment, signed in January this year during the visit by N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The session will examine organizational questions concerning the commission's activity and will determine the main lines and programs of cooperation for the near future.

The Soviet delegation is led by V.G. Sokolovskiy, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Protection of Nature, and the Norwegian delegation by U. Seterstad, permanent deputy minister for environmental affairs.

Latin America & Caribbean

Chilean Communist Party Issues Communique
PY2208184588 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2030 GMT 20 Aug 88

["Full text" of Chilean Communist Party communique released during a news conference with Communist leaders Luis Guatavino, Jose Sanfuentes, and Guillermo Sherping on 16 August at unidentified hotel in downtown Santiago—read by announcer]

[Text] During the plenary meeting of the Communist Party's Central Committee last July, we stated: What is happening in the country proves that the plebiscite was, and is, conceived by the dictatorship as a great fraud, designed to assure the perpetuation of the current system and of Pinochet in power. But developments also show that it is feasible to turn the fraud into a great failure for the tyranny.

This statement is valid. Pinochet and his spokesmen, headed by Minister Fernandez, continue an unbridled intervention [word indistinct]. They stubbornly refuse to fulfill the minimum guarantees demanded by the Catholic Church for the opposition. It is scandalous to see the use of the national media to confuse the citizenry. The other face of this policy is an increased persecution against the democratic media, to which we voice our fraternal solidarity.

The state of fraud is expressed in many forms: the use of fiscal resources for bribery; unprecedented pressure exerted on public, civilian, and military servants; the prohibition on thousands of Chilean citizens to excercise their rights; and the denial to 10 percent of the Chilean population, living in exile, to exercise their right to vote.

When Bishop Tomas Gonzalez brought this last subject to the attention of the government junta, he was answered with insults. Therefore, the fraud is obvious. However, the plebiscite can contribute to the establishment of the necessary conditions for a democratic opening. In fact, as all seriously conducted polls have shown, and as Fernandez has admitted during a full cabinet meeting, the supporters of the no-vote are the majority in Chile. The victory of the yes-vote could only be possible through a scandalous alteration of the plebiscite results, which the people cannot and will not recognize.

It is so obvious that Pinochet will be defeated, that even within the circles of the dictatorship there are people who have decided to clearly state that the candidacy of the dictatorship will be imposed on them and that they do not wish to shoulder the historic responsibility of the upcoming defeat.

This, undoubtedly, is the message of the statement made by Generals Stange and Matthei. The same goes for the reticence shown by some rightist politicians.

The appointment of Pinochet as candidate to the plebiscite will represent the ratification of the intention to carry out the fraud. All us democrats must bear this in mind and act to squash the attempt to perpetuate themselves in power. There is no other path other than to develop a resolute participation of the masses in the struggle against the plebiscite.

The Communists are encouraging this struggle in a resolute and decided manner by working at the grass roots level, with all democratic sectors, without discrimination, and by contributing to the necessary united action of the entire citizenry by making the struggle for social demands and democracy a united effort.

We reiterate our belief that the victory of democracy will be possible through the intransigent struggle against the dictatorship, the systematic charge of violations against human rights, and the categorical rejection of impunity to those guilty of crimes. These are necessary issues that must be raised if we seek to really build a stable democratic regime. The same goes for the shameful conditions in which most Chileans live as a consequence of the

economic model imposed by the dictatorship. Overexploitation and the poverty of millions to provide an opulent way of life for a few; this is the essence of Pinochet's economic policy.

The preaching about the policy's success, solely designed to pave the way toward a fraudulent plebiscite, should not deceive democratic leaders. This is the government of the wealthy, at the service of large foreign capital. This government looks after the tycoon and transfers the nation's wealth to foreign hands. Meanwhile, the people suffer from a lack of bread, work, housing, health, and education. The middle class, including the domestic bourgeoisie, lives in the grip of anguish caused by the readjustable debts. Private consumption has decreased 32 percent since 1972. This is how the tyranny's success can be measured. This and other similar facts must be brought into the limelight.

Systematic repression is the dark side of this economic model. The country's deep division will not heal as long as the dictatorship exists. The Standing Committee of the Chilean Episcopal Conference is correct in pointing out that Pinochet is a factor of division and confrontation among Chileans. This is the sentiment of the nation's majority. It is now imperative that all democratic forces join efforts to put an end to the current Chilean regime. United action is necessary and possible, and it will ultimately prevail. A simplistic view of the plebiscite as a mere electoral contest cannot bring about a democratic outcome. Even more, such a view might frustrate the hopes for a democratically achieved rupture with the regime through the plebiscite.

When attempts are made to weaken social mobilizations, and when those who demand solution to their plights are sentenced, the prospects for a democratic and real solution are thwarted. This is no time for sectarianism or exclusionary positions: Anticommunism is nothing but the dictatorship's Trojan horse, an untenable argument in today's world, and a form of remaining hostage to the past. The presence of Fidel Castro in Ecuador in contrast to the presence of George Shultz; this is a sign of the new times in Latin America and the world. With total frankness, we want to express our alarm at the fact that democratic sectors should lower, day after day, the level of their demand for change vis-a-vis the regime. This can be seen in their recent decision to reduce their demands for a reform of the chapter on reforms in the 1980 Constitution, following the defeat of the yes-vote. This, let us say clearly, means that the people, after the no-vote wins at the fraudulent plebiscite of the fascists, will nevertheless be victimized by an institutional fraud with the consent of some political leaders.

Thus, Pinochet's power will remain intact, and he will have an entire year to maneuver and rearrange the situation in his favor. In the worst case, the dictator will retain power in the National Security Council, acting as the real king behind the throne. We must once and for all convince ourselves that democracy or democratization is impossible with Pinochet in any position of power. The victory of the people over fraud should be crowned by the removal of Pinochet from power and the end of the fascist Constitution. Therefore, the prospect for an institutionally achieved rupture with the regime, by giving form to some type of real and democratic regime, cannot be ignored. This prospect can be brought into realization only through pressure, mass mobilization, and the determination to enforce a nationwide stoppage, a democratic uprising, should the people's desire for change be mocked.

This is what we must begin to forge today. Make sure that the majority for the no-vote is reflected in the ballot boxes, thus making it obvious that the people will defend their victory and make it significant. The course of events will to a large extent depend on what the men in uniform do to defend themselves. We consider the members of the Armed Forces as citizens in their own right. In this belief, we urge them to cast no-votes and to act in defense of the country's majority will. We urge them to disassociate themselves from the plebiscite fraud now in the making and to act in favor of democracy.

We unreservedly support the unitarian demonstration of the youth for the no-vote that has been called for on the anniversary of O'Higgins birthday on 20 August. In the same way, we support the demonstration in repudiation of Pinochet's nomination that has been called by the United Left for 30 August at 2100 which will be joined by numerous social organizations that are asking for a pot-banging demonstration at the same date and time. We also support the rally that has been called for 4 September by ACUSO, the National Socialist Accord for No-Vote, to express the democratic decision of the overwhelming majority of Chileans. Each and every demonstration seeking to ensure the victory of the no-vote will receive our support, so that this victory cannot be tampered with and so that it can be energetically defended as an instrument for real democratic change.

We want to end this statement by greeting the constituent congress of the United Workers Central, CUT, that will be held shortly. The manual and intellectual workers are the mainspring of the social and democratic forces, and their decision to form a central organization under the difficult conditions imposed by fascism is a daring action, an important victory. It will put further behind all sectarian or exclusionary positions, more so if the CUT leadership can represent all the workers' groups in the organization's membership. To the extent that the unitarian, pluralist, democratic, and combative character of this organization is asserted, the workers of Chile stand to gain. We live through decisive times that require a greater effort from all democrats, and the Communist Party of Chile militants, sympathizers, and friends will have to work more intensely to unite the great majority who want to emerge from the dictatorship's darkness.

We have read the complete text of a statement made public this past Tuesday, 16 August, at a news conference held in a Santiago downtown hotel by Communist Party of Chile leaders Luis Guastavino, Jose Sanfuentes, and Guillermo Sherping.

Political & Social

Nonaggression Pact Anniversary Observed; Comment

IZVESTIYA Carries Report

PM1908092788 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "History Cannot Be Recarved"]

[Text] The democratization of society and the desire for truth have given rise to a tremendous attraction toward history among Soviet people and brought about popular discussions on various periods of history. A news conference of Soviet historians held 16 August at the NOVOSTI news agency was devoted to the situation in Europe in the prewar years.

It is easier for us now to judge the past and we know a lot which used to be unknown, Doctor of Historical Sciences V.M. Falin, director of the APN board, emphasized in his introductory speech. But we cannot recarve history. We must learn to read the facts adequately without succumbing to considerations of expediency and without driving into the shadows events of paramount importance which played a decisive role under the specific conditions of those years.

It is important to understand that many decisions of the 1937-1939 period, in particular the conclusion of the 23 August 1939 Soviet-German nonaggression pact, were made under conditions where the world was sliding toward World War II and were dictated by extraordinary circumstances. From 1933-1934 the Soviet Union persistently came out for the need to create a system of collective security in Europe which, in the USSR's opinion, could resolve problems of stability and security on the continent. Unfortunately, this idea failed to meet with support in the West at the official level.

As is well known, as of the fall of 1937 Hitler persistently promoted the idea that Germany's future lay in expansion not so much to the West as to "the Baltic and Russian space region." One way or another these plans became known to the Soviet Union and were correspondingly taken into account in selecting a particular version of a decision.

In the opinion of Candidate of Historical Sciences L.A. Bezymenskiy, political observer of the journal NOVOYE VREMYA, in discussing the situation in Europe on the eve of the war it is expedient to look particularly closely at an event whose 50th anniversary is imminent—the Munich accord. That international act was of exceptional and, it may be said, fatal importance in the entire process of the aggravation and deterioration of the situation in Europe. I allow myself to put forward the thesis that before Munich there existed a possibility, given the distribution of forces at the time, of preventing World War II. Munich dealt a very grave blow to the entire system of attempts to create a unified bloc against Hitler's aggression which would have united the most diverse forces, primarily the Soviet Union and those circles in Britain and France which were trying to find a common language with us. The fact that in the Munich pact the Western powers went behind our backs to enter into an agreement with Germany and Italy seems to me to have had exceptional importance. A process which could no longer be reversed began after the pact.

The events in the Baltic republics in prewar years were examined in the context of the situation which had taken shape in Europe on the eve of World War II.

Candidate of Historical Sciences E.A. Zhagar, senior scientific assistant at the Latvian SSR Academy of Sciences Institute of History, noted that varying assessments are often given of the events in the Baltic republics in the summer of 1940. The first assessment, accepted in the West and the main one there, comes down to asserting that it was a case of the occupation of its territory by Red Army units and forcible annexation to the USSR. The assessment of Soviet historians and of our public is as follows: 1940 was the year of socialist revolutions in the Baltic republics. But here it is essential to consider that despite the fact that they have a very great deal that is similar in their economic, social, and historical development, the three republics are nevertheless not a single entity.

It is notable in the field of international law that all 19 states of Europe and other countries which had missions in Riga (except for the United States) recognized Soviet Latvia. After Red Army units had entered Latvian territory not one of them issued a statement to the effect that Latvia had been occupied. All the previous government's overseas envoys recognized the legality of the new government and none of them appealed to international opinion claiming that Latvia had been occupied. The change of government after 17 June—the day the Red Army units entered Latvia—took place with the approval of its president, Ulmanis, and he himself remained at his post right up until the convocation of the Latvian People's Saeima [Latvian parliament], until its first session. There was a gradual replacement of the previous state apparatus. That is why we have the right to say that in the Baltic republics (and not only in Latvia) we have an exceptionally rare phenomenon—the peaceful surrender of power by the former class, a surrender without a single shot fired, without resistance.

The events of those days, the Latvian historian stressed, were varied and complex and to some degree contradictory. But they all confirm the fact that in the days of June and July 1940 the overwhelming majority of the Latvian population made a historic choice between association to the Soviet Union and the new socialist system and Hitler's occupation, enslavement, and destruction. Actually, there was not even a choice as such. The Hitlerites had left no choice. The Nazi leadership considered the

peoples of the Baltic states to be racially imperfect people and threatened them not even with Germanization but with exile or the total annihilation of their national culture.

When we say that the majority of the working people of the Baltic states, headed by the Communists, struggled for socialism, we have in mind that they were thinking of the genuine socialism of Lenin's spirit, Doctor of Historical Sciences O.Kh. Kuuli, a professor at the Tallinn Pedagogical Institute, stressed. Unfortunately not all the Estonian working people's hopes were realized under those specific historical conditions.

We know, the speaker noted, that the socialist system in the Soviet Union in the prewar years was strongly deformed. Stalin's administrative bureaucratic system with mass repressions and terror left its mark on the development of events in Estonia and the other Baltic states. In the scholar's opinion, it would be wrong to believe that all the people arrested in Estonia in 1940-1941 or after the war were innocent. They included those who had actively struggled against Soviet power. That applies in particular to the time after the German occupation, that is, after 1944, when Soviet power was restored in Estonia.

The process of the rehabilitation of the illegally repressed is now under way. Its initiators are the leading organs of the party and government and the prosecutor's office. Many people have already been rehabilitated and I think that this process will continue, the Estonian scholar said.

In Lithuania there were also distortions of socialist democracy, said R.Ya. Sharmaytis, department chief of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee Party History Institute. Thousands of people were repressed. The decision has now been made to investigate all events and many people have already been rehabilitated. This work is continuing.

Returning to the events of 1940, R.Ya. Sharmaytis stressed that the Lithuanian working people struggled against social oppression for many years. The bourgeois government of the time reflected the interests of just 10 percent of the population. The majority of Lithuanians lived in poverty. The specific feature of the situation in Lithuania was that the revolutionary situation had moved to socialist revolution by peaceful means. Elections to the people's parliament were held, which decided the question of the republic's further destiny.

The scholar cited the evidence of German journalists working in Kaunas at the time who were by no means in sympathy with the new system: "In connection with the flight of Smetona and the complete collapse of the system of government, a broad revolutionary coup has begun in political life. The majority of the population is not only voluntarily taking part in this movement but really sincerely admires the new system."

Those taking part in the news conference answered numerous questions from journalists.

Falin, Historians Cited

LD2008044288 Moscow TASS in English 0411 GMT 20 Aug 88

[From the "Soviet Baltic Panorama" feature]

[Text] Riga August 20—By LATINFORM correspondents:

"The fall of Latvia's bourgeois government in 1940 was precipitated by the intensive revolutionary movement of the people," says Aleksander Drizul, a notable Latvian historian. He disagrees with the view widespread in the West that Soviet power was brought to the Baltic region by the Red Army.

"It would be, certainly, wrong to deny every influence of the Soviet troops on the developments," the scholar said. "Yet the Red Army's presence was only a catalyst for the revolutionary process which gained momentum by that time, accelerated it and made the victory of people's power a bloodless development. As far as Latvia is concerned, even the Western publications of those times make no mention of any interference of the Soviet Army in its home affairs."

"The Latvian people had sound reasons to resent the Karlis Ulmanis regime," Aleksander Drizul notes. "I had occasion to read the archives of the political directorate of bourgeois Latvia. In describing the mood among the workers in Riga in 1939-1940 the secret police actually admitted a gradual ripening of the revolutionary situation in the country. Early in 1940 unemployment sharply increased. Over a few months alone, its level jumped from 2,000 to 40,000 officially registered unemployed. The Ulmanis government responded to the mass actions of the working people with the arrests of Communists, socialists and members of youth organisations. The revolutionary movement was in the nature of a popular front, in which the Communist Party of Latvia, acting underground, had an important role to play."

Estonian historian Olaf Kuuli explains the paradoxical situation, which emerged then in the Baltic region by the tremendous influence of the mass of the people: The pro-German minded bourgeois governments concluded treaties on mutual assistance with the USSR and allowed the Soviet troops into the territory of their country. In Estonia, the Communist Party suffered great losses and was numerically small. But the general discontent with the ruling regime's policy enabled the Communists to rest for support in their fight on the small legal workers' organisations. The considerable strengthening of the left-wing forces could be seen from their successes in the elections to the local and national bodies of power in 1939-1940.

"At that time the Soviet Union was the sole real force capable of defending our land," historian Romas Sharmaytis from Lithuania carried on. "Way back in 1920 Poland captured our capital—Vilnius, and in 1939 the Nazi troops occupied Lithuania's only sea-port of Klaipeda. Under those conditions the Lithuanian people, naturally, had no love lost for Germany. Considering that after the fall of Poland the Soviet Union turned over its capital to Lithuania, one can easily understand the sincere wish of the Lithuanians for a close alliance with the USSR. In addition, the revolutionary situation had long been ripe in that country. Over the twenty years of the bourgeois rule 1,120 strikes were called with the participation of 130 thousand workers. By the beginning of 1940 small Lithuania had a total of 70,000 jobless. Former member of the bourgeois government General Stasis Rastikis admitted in his memoirs issued in the West that most of the Lithuanian people hated the ruling regime. It was not accidental that Lithuania's army under the command of General Vincas Vitkauskas went over to the side of the working people. The fall of the bourgeois government was welcomed by the whole people."

Basing themselves on an analysis of papers, historians of the Soviet Baltic region drew the conclusion that people's power in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia was established in keeping with the will of the working masses themselves.

Nevertheless, Western historians are trying to prove that it is precisely the events around the Soviet-German pact of August 23, 1939, which predetermined the further destiny of the Baltic republics. In that connection Dr. Sc. (History) Valentin Falin, a prominent soviet expert in German studies, who is now head of the Soviet NOVOSTI press agency, had this to say:

"As is known, beginning from the autumn of 1937 Hitler persistently claimed that Germany's future lay not so much in expansion in the West as expansion in 'the area of the Baltic region and the Russian expanses.' He said: 'It is better to sacrifice another pair of millions of people in war, but get at last, territorial-political expanses.' This is the main trend of German expansionism, which was permanently present in the official and unofficial contacts of the Nazi leaders. These plans became some or other way known to the Soviet people and were correspondingly taken into consideration in opting for some or other version of settlement. I must say that, unfortunately, we had such a choice only in few instances.

"Today we find it easier to make our judgement of the past, since we know much of what was unknown then. Yet one cannot recarve history. We should learn to read the facts adequately, without exaggerating what seems to be more impotant today because of time-serving considerations, and without consigning to oblivion the events which played a decisive role and were of a paramount significance in the conditions of those years.

"On publications appearing in the Western press of photographic copies and reprints from papers named the 'secret protocols' of the treaty of August 23, 1939, I would like to note that attempts to find their original copies were made in the West and in our country more than once. I must also say that work in Soviet archives to find out the authentic copies of these documents has been and remains very intensive, yet it is so far fruitless. If they are still found, a corresponding appraisal should be given to them."

Historian on Baltic 'Choice'

LD2308230788 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Interview with Aleksandr Sergeyevich Savin, doctor of sciences (history) and winner of the International Prize of the Academy of Sciences of Socialist Countries, by correspondent Aleksandr Abramov: "Truth and Invention: To the 48th Anniversary of the Accession of the Baltic Republics to the USSR"; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Abramov] Western radio stations usually assert that in the summer of 1940, the Baltic was occupied by the Red Army and was forcibly joined to the Soviet Union. How do historians view this, and what do the facts and documents say?

[Savin] A thorough examination of the facts and documents relating to that period do not corroborate the Western correspondents' theory alleging that the Baltic was occupied by the Soviet Union. Let us look at the facts.

In September 1939, at a time when the threat of fascist aggression against the Baltic countries was growing, the Soviet Union proposed that the Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian Governments sign mutual assistance treaties. The Baltic working people received this proposal with great satisfaction. Under pressure from their own peoples, the governments of the Baltic countries started negotiations with the Soviet Government. They signed those treaties: Estonia on 28 September, Latvia on 5 October, and Lithuania on 10 October.

The Soviet Union pledged to render all forms of assistance, including military, to these countries in the event of aggression against them—or the threat of aggression—by any European power, meaning primarily fascist Germany, of course. To ensure the implementation of what had been pledged, the USSR obtained the right to deploy troops in the Baltic countries and to set up naval and air bases on their territories.

[Abramov] What was the population's attitude toward the arrival of units of the Red Army?

[Savin] The majority of the population welcomed the march of the Soviet troops into the Baltic countries. People understood this was being done to protect them

against the threat of fascist aggression. Numerous photographs and films testify to the cordial welcome given to the Soviet soldiers. There are also documents confirming this: for example, an address by Estonian working people to President Paets. Estonia's workers, it says, welcome the signing of the pact on mutual assistance between Estonia and the Soviet Union and hope that this will be followed by an even greater rapprochement between the two peoples and countries. We believe that the pact prevents aggression against the Estonian coast, thus providing conditions for the peaceful development of both the Soviet and Estonian peoples.

[Abramov] I believe, however, that not everyone reacted to the actions of the Soviet Union with such understanding.

[Savin] Yes, of course. There were profascist groupings who embarked on the path of sabotaging the concluded treaties and who created difficulties with the supplies and consumer services provided to garrisons of Soviet military units.

During the Soviet-Finnish conflict, the ruling circles of the Baltic states embarked on the same course. Local residents were forbidden to communicate with Red Army soldiers under threat of punishment. Local military units began to be deployed around Soviet garrisons. Working people were forbidden to show a liking for the Soviet Union, to read Soviet newspapers, to listen to radio programs from the USSR, or even to share train compartments with Red Army servicemen. All that could not be a mere coincidence.

The thing is that during the advance of German troops in West Europe, the polarization of forces intensified. Supporters of fascism and of the fascist bloc were on one side while the antifascists and opponents of the fascist bloc were on the other. The same polarization of political forces was also taking place in the Baltic states. The police were arresting champions of democracy and those citizens who provided services to the Soviet troops. Profascist organizations were hatching a plot in the guise of holding a Baltic week, scheduled for 15 June.

The Soviet Government could not remain indifferent to such actions. On 14 and 16 June 1940, it sent notes to the governments of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania exposing the anti-Soviet provocations and proposing strict observance to the mutual assistance pact. In order to avert fresh provocations and to ensure the safety of its small garrisons in the Baltic region, the Soviet Government proposed deploying additional troop contingents at the previously granted bases. Under pressure from the popular masses, the governments of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia accepted the Soviet Union's proposals.

It should be said that these notes from the Soviet Government helped the Baltic working people to see once and for all the criminal nature of the policy of the ruling cliques, who were contriving to embroil their peoples in a war against the USSR. The awareness of this great danger mobilized the masses, until the working people throughout the Baltic region undertook openly antigovernment acts.

[Abramov] What sort of acts were these, and what were their purpose?

[Savin] In our opinion they were revolutionary in nature. The study of the events in the first half of 1940 leads one to the conclusion that a revolutionary situation was developing in Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. The conditions were ripening for the overthrow of the profascist regimes. A unique situation had developed when the Baltic countries proved to be the weak link in the chain of imperialism. The class conflicts here had come to a head. A situation had developed whereby the lower classes had no wish to continue living in the old way, while the upper classes could not go on ruling in the old way. This was a national crisis.

[Abramov] It is said by some in the West that it was the Soviet troops who put the Communists in power—in quotation marks—in the Baltic region. Is this the case?

[Savin] We have undertaken a fresh, detailed study of the influence the Soviet troops stationed in the Baltic had on the revolutionary process in the Baltic states. Of course, there was no interference by Red Army units in the domestic affairs of the peoples of those countries. At the same time, the presence of the Soviet forces bolstered the working people's confidence in their victory on the one hand, and on the other restrained the bourgeoisie from trying to crush the people's revolutionary aspirations by force of arms, because in those conditions any such attempts would have been doomed to failure.

On 15 June, the day of the so-called Baltic Week, thousands of people took to the streets of Vilnius, Kaunas, and Siauliai to avert the fascist conspiracy. They greeted the Soviet troops and demanded a change in government. Even the Army started to waver. The government could no longer rely on it, and the dictator Smetona and his ministers fled to Germany.

On 17 June, at the proposal of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Lithuania, a popular government headed by Paleckis—a prominent antifascist, publicist, and writer—was formed. In our opinion, the formation of the new government under the direct influence of the people signified the start of the socialist revolution. It is quite interesting to note that the revolutionary events of June 1940 were joined by soldiers and some officers from the Lithuanian Army, led by its commander, General Vickauskas, who became defense minister in the popular government of Lithuania.

In the elections to the People's Seym, 99 percent of voters who voted on 14 and 15 July supported the candidates of the Union of the Working People, whose manifesto was drawn up by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Lithuania.

Similar events occurred in Estonia and Latvia.

[Abramov] The mass movements of the working people and their resoundingly social nature, as well as the ascension to power of representatives of the working class and the peasantry, are convincing evidence of the socialist nature of the revolutions in the Baltic countries. Generally, this is understood even by many researchers abroad. And this is why some of our opponents have recently tried to cast doubt on the very idea of socialism in the Baltic states. They wonder roughly this: Was it really worthwhile fighting for the Stalinist socialism that subjected thousands of Estonians, Latvians, and Lithuanians to quite unfounded repression?

[Savin] We are trying to answer this question, too, in a truthful and honest way. The truth cannot possibly be a luxury. It is one of the most faithful allies of Leninist-style socialism. We have now studied the events of the thirties and numerous documents from the open stacks of the archives. We know that Stalinism was a distorted form of the theory and practice of socialism. But in 1940, the working masses did not know that. They saw before them the genuine successes of the country of socialism, the USSR, and the real and mortal threat to the peoples from the approaching aggression of German fascism. The choice of the working people of the Baltic countries for socialism and the USSR rather than capitalism and Hitler's Germany was right and morally correct.

The current ideological campaign of the Western media is objectively aimed at restructuring and at those people who support the ideas of restructuring within the country and on the international scene.

Academic Justifies Pact

LD2308195688 Moscow TASS in English 1826 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Riga, August 23 TASS—"The non-aggression treaty signed in Moscow on August 23, 1939 by Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov and German Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop made it possible to put off Nazi Germany's military aggression against the Soviet Union," a leading Soviet academic has told TASS.

Prof. Aleksandr Chubaryan, director of the Institute of General History attached to the USSR Academy of Sciences, pointed out that the treaty should be viewed within the context of the overall international situation in the second half of the 1930s.

The comparison of facts, study of the nuances in the foreign policy of Great Britain and France and the behaviour of their representatives at the Anglo-Franco-Soviet military negotiations in the summer of 1939 convinced the Soviet Government that these European powers wanted to drag the USSR into a military conflict with Germany while themselves remaining out of it.

Joseph Stalin had all grounds to mistrust the leaders of Great Britain and France who relinquished Czechoslovakia to Adolf Hitler under the 1938 Munich pact.

The researcher noted that some top officials in those countries wanted to have an agreement with Germany at the expense of the Soviet Union and pursued a policy of "appeasement" in a bid to weaken German pressure on the West and heighten it in the East.

Confronted with the possibliity of a war on two fronts, in Europe and in the Far East with Japan, the USSR sought ways to guarantee its own security. So when Germany proposed concluding a non-aggression pact, the proposal was accepted in Moscow.

Chubaryan recalled that Great Britain, too, was engaged in negotiations with Nazi Germany at that time, which was evidenced by the publication of archives in the West.

The British leadership did not seek to ensure security of the Baltic republics, but regarded the region merely as a corridor along which it was possible to channel German aggression against the USSR.

The Soviet Union, on the contrary, cared for the security of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. It demanded at the talks with the British and French representatives in the summer of 1939 that the guarantees of security which these powers gave to Belgium, the Netherlands, Greece and some other European states be also applied to the Baltic republics. Such guarantees were not given.

Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia could expect real assistance in the struggle against Hitler's aggression only from the USSR which gave them guarantees of security by proposing mutual assistance pacts.

The USSR's active foreign policy in 1939, directed at preserving peace and creating a system of collective security in Europe evoked no support from the West's ruling circles.

"The conclusion of the Soviet-German non-aggression pact on August 23, 1939 should be regarded as a decision prompted by extraordinary circumstances and adopted in the conditions of the world's circumstances and adopted in the conditions of the world's sliding towards war," Prof. Chubaryan said.

100,000 Assemble in Vilnius

LD2308205388 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1935 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Vilnius, 23 Aug (TASS)—A 100,000-strong meeting to mark the 49th anniversary of the Soviet-German nonaggression pact of 23 August 1939 took place today in the Vingis forest park of the capital of Lithuania, Vilnius. It was addressed by eminent representatives of science, literature, and art, and people of other professions. A speech by Yuozas Urbshis, a former minister of Lithuania's bourgeois government, which had been recorded on tape, was played.

Those assembled honored the memory of the victims lost by the Lithuanian people in the years of the Hitlerite occupation. The speeches noted that Hitlerite Germany, by violating the nonaggression treaty, unleashed World War II. Even before that it seized Lithuania's seaport, Klaipeda, and prepared for the total enslavement of this region. The USSR was then the only real force on whose help Lithuania could count.

The speakers unanimously condemned the repression that took place in Lithuania during the years of the Stalin personality cult and pointed out that this deformed the revolutionary process of social transformations which took place in the Baltic republics. It was emphasized that the mass deportations which were carried out before the Hitlerites' invasion of the USSR did not promote the cohesion of forces in the struggle against the fascist aggressor. The participants in the meeting demanded that these measures be declared unconstitutional and that more resolute efforts be made to rehabilitate the innocent victims of repression.

Lionginas Shepetis, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Lithuania who spoke at the meeting, expressed his conviction that under the conditions of the process of democratization and glasnost under way in the USSR, the Soviet republics, in accordance with the Leninist plan, will become a genuine federation and will strengthen their sovereignty, as is stated in the decisions of the recently-held 19th All-Union CPSU Conference.

A meeting of 10,000 people also took place in Kaunas, Lithuania's second largest town. Similar meetings were additionally held in other towns in the republic.

'Unofficial' Groups in Riga

LD2308222388 Moscow TASS in English 2109 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Riga August 23 TASS—TASS correspondent Vilis Sirmais writes:

Several thousand representatives of unofficial organizations from the capital of Latvia, a Soviet Baltic republic, gathered this evening for a meeting near the Monument of Freedom in Riga.

The Executive Committee of the Riga City Soviet of People's Deputies issued the permission for the meeting. The pretext for it was the anniversary of the conclusion of the non-aggression pact between the USSR and fascist Germany on August 23, 1939.

An opinion was expressed at the meeting that during Stalin's rule, the Soviet leadership of that period had brought elements of command methods into the sphere of inter-state contacts, that norms of international law and elementary ethics had been ignored.

A participant in the meeting, Dzintars Poikans, a 34-year-old resident of Riga, told the TASS correspondent: "August 23 can hardly be described as the most pleasant day in history. The treaty with fascist Germany was not to the credit of Communists, but I cannot tolerate political speculations regarding that page in history." Poikans is of the opinion that to play the "Baltic card" is of advantage to those "who are frightened by the first successes of the perestroyka drive. They whip up passions regarding so-called 'blank spots'. Instead of quietly studying them and looking for constructive solutions and approaches, definite circles try to gain political capital on that".

Some persons tried to allege at the meeting that so-called secret protocols to the treaty of August 23, 1939 on the delimitation of the spheres of interests of the USSR and Germany have determined the entry of Baltic states into the Soviet Union.

"This is a bluff based on the hope for defective knowledge of history", Latvia's Minister of Foreign Affairs Leonard Bartkevic told TASS. Indeed, "improvement of the Soviet Union's strategic positions had been achieved in the process of the conclusion of the treaty", he emphasised. The arrangements on the delimitation of the spheres of interests of the USSR and Germany in Poland and the Baltics had been reached. For a certain period of time, the arrangement protected Latvia and Estonia bordering on the USSR from their seizure by Germany. A new arrangement was reached on the Soviet Union's insistence at the Soviet-German talks on September 28. Under that arrangement, the whole of the Baltic area, also Lithuania, was included into the USSR's sphere of interests.

"The conclusion of the Soviet-German treaty could by no means prevent the outbreak of the Second World War", the minister went on. "The Soviet Government could not have any illusions to this effect. But the non-aggression pact had the obvious advantage. It enabled the USSR to stave off the outbreak of war".

Assessing the events of the summer of 1940, Bartkevic emphasised that the restoration of Soviet power and voluntary entry of Latvia into the USSR had been the consequence of a peaceful socialist revolution. He recalled that "all the European states and other countries having missions in Riga recognized the legality of a new

government headed by August Kirchensteins. Nobody, not even the former president, protested against the new power. There existed only one alternative to the union with the USSR, and it was occupation and enslavement by the Hitlerites."

Looking back on the events of 1939-1940 it is obvious that they are complex and contradictory in some degree. But they all show that the overwhelming majority of Latvia's population made a historic choice in favour of Soviet power.

2,000 Rally in Tallinn

LD2308222988 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 2000 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] In Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, about 2,000 people demonstrated today demanding increased independence from the Soviet leadership. The demonstration was held on the 49th anniversary of the Ribbentrop-Molotov pact and was organized by the 3-day-old Independence Party, which demands Estonian succession from the Soviet Union.

There were also demonstrations today in the other two Baltic republics, Latvia and Lithuania.

Vilnius Hunger Strike for 'Political Prisoners'

LD2308202088 Vilnius in Lithuanian to North America 0000 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Two days ago two men, Petras Cidzikas and Algimantas Andreika, started a hunger strike on Gediminas Square in Vilnius. They placed their mattresses and placards there. Today they were joined by (Eugenijus Kliukovskia).

They are protesting against the imprisonment of 12 political prisoners, including Petras Grazulis, who was sent to corrective labor camp for refusing to do military training; Sigitas Tamkevicius, Balys Gajauskas, and Gintautas Iesmantas, who are in exile for anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda; Viktoras Petkus, who is imprisoned for setting up an anti-Soviet organization and who is also serving a separate sentence for homosexuality.

By the way, Gintautas Iesmantas would have been released earlier if he had promised not to violate Soviet laws in the future, but he refused to give such a promise.

Our correspondents visited those on hunger strike in Gediminas Square. When asked to speak about himself and about the participants in this action, Petras Cidzikas gave the following description of himself and his friends'

[Begin recording] [Cidzikas] I can say that Andreika is also an innocent victim and was imprisoned for 6 years. Article 68 was applied to him, to me, and to others.

[Unidentified correspondent] Did the authorities react to your strike in any way?

[Cidzikas] Yesterday morning Gorkom Secretary Rinkevicius came to see us, accompanied by two deputies of a local soviet. One of them did not introduce himself; I've forgotten the name of the other. Then D. Sodeika, procurator of Vilnius, came with his colleagues. The conversation was nice and friendly; we shook hands when we parted. We think it is nice that they came. [end recording]

Our journalists contacted Donatas Sodeika, the procurator, and asked him to explain whether these men are violating Soviet laws by this action. The procurator said that they are not breaking the law. Although the procurator could not give an exhaustive description of these people he said he firmly believed that they are of the same type as those on whose behalf they are demonstrating.

By the way, those on strike maintained that they are supported by the Lithuanian Restructuring Movement. Algimantas Cekujolis, chief editor of the weekly GIMTASIS KRASTAS and member of the movement's initiative group, said that this action has not been organized by the Lithuanian Restructuring Movement and that the movement does not support it.

Official Comments on 'Democratic Union' Actions

LD2308155788 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] A news conference has been held at the Moscow City Executive Committee's main directorate of internal affairs, at which journalists were briefed on the illegal actions of the so-called Democratic Union, which attempted to hold a provocative meeting. Our correspondent Anatoliy Fedorov reports:

[Fedorov] To start with, what is the Democratic Union? It is not a party, as they call themselves. It is about 15 renegades who are trying to restructure our society along nonsocialist lines. They announced themselves this May when they held what was called a congress in the Moscow Oblast and adopted a program. In this congress they wrote that for them the philosophy of Marxism-Leninism is not a philosophy and that it is not on that ideology that they intend to form public awareness. They categorically favor a nonparty system in the Soviet Union and oppose the law on universal military service, and so on. Can we accept such a position? Of course not.

Then, on 4 August a written statement arrived at the Moscow Soviet's Executive Committee from the Democratic Union organizing group. It was signed by Novodvorskaya, Debryanskaya, and Tsarkov. This included a statement in the form of an ultimatum in which they report, rather than ask permission for, the holding of a meeting—timed to coincide with the 20th anniversary of the entry of Warsaw Pact troops into Czechoslovakia—at the square at the intersection of Tverskoy Boulevard and Gorkiy Street on 21 August at 1600. The statement was examined and, given that this group's venture would have been provocative and its participants would have

presented a deliberately distorted and perverted view of Soviet policies and factual events, and taking into account the possibility of infringements of public order, the Moscow Soviet's Executive Committee banned the meeting on legitimate grounds.

Despite this, the organizing group [initsiativnaya grupa] distributed leaflets, invitations, and called everyone to this unsanctioned meeting. They were officially warned that this was illegal and that the militia would take all necessary measures to stop the illegal actions. All the same, the Democratic Union representatives started to assemble last Sunday at Pushkin Square, blocking traffic on Gorkiy Street. They were warned by loudspeaker several times of their accountability for their illegal actions. Citizens—and many had gathered there out of simple curiosity—were requested to leave the square. The situation became tense, and with the help of people's volunteers, the militia detained a number of instigators and took them to the militia station.

It should be said that they resisted and insulted the authorities, 35 of whom were injured. All in all, 96 people were detained for violating the regulations on holding meetings and for bad behavior. I asked Lev Petrovich Baranov, Moscow city procurator, to comment on these events:

[Begin recording] [Baranov] Under the democratization of social life in our country, the law grants citizens opportunities to express their attitudes on the progress of restructuring and the implementation the 19th party conference decisions and to speak seriously about problems with political development and improvement of our political organization, and about many other things. Of course, taking due account of the fact that a union decree was adopted on 28 July and a republican decree was adopted on 29 July on procedures for holding marches, rallies, demonstrations, and meetings, which regulate these procedures and lay down sanctions for violations, citizens can submit a request to the executive committees of local soviets of people's deputies to hold one or more meetings on one or more subjectsw. Today we can say that the rayon soviets, primarily in the city of Moscow, are very active in granting such opportunities.

At the same time, we are saying that pluralism of views is only possible on a socialist basis. A group of citizens, the so-called Democratic Union, is manifestly acting in a way that is antirestructuring, antisocialist, and, I would say, in many of their attitudes and actions anti-Soviet. Ninety-six people have been detained, and yesterday and today the people's court of Frunzenskiy Rayon has been examining the question of their administrative liability. For the moment, a number of lawbreakers have been sentenced to administrative arrest, some to a fine of up to 300 rubles. This process of examining administrative cases and materials is continuing.

Certain town citizens forget that democracy and legality are unified and indivisible, and that democracy is only possible under conditions of rigorous compliance with Soviet laws, under conditions of socialist legality. Those who do not understand this will suffer seriously from Soviet law. We will not tolerate antisocialist orgies in our city.

[Fedorov] Briefly, about the leaders of the so-called Democratic Union.

[Baranov] Novodvorskaya, Tsarkov, and others have now been sentenced to administrative arrest. These are people who generally refuse to accept the socialist system to such an extent, and refuse to accept our society to such an extent, that one must speak of them in very serious terms—perhaps in terms of applying more serious measures. If this does not do them any good, these sanctions applied by the court, then the new law directly provides for criminal liability: up to 6 months imprisonment, a fine of up to 1,000 rubles, and corrective work for up to 1 year.

[Fedorov] Having received a refusal from the Moscow Soviet Executive Committee for holding this meeting, were the leaders of the Democratic Union undertaking a provocation?

[Baranov] Indeed, this was an attempt to test the firmness of Soviet power in the city, and they have come to realize that the power is firm and that no one will tolerate provocations, no one will tolerate them.

[Fedorov] The militia used force. A special subdivision that was appropriately equipped went into operation. Was everything proper in the militia actions?

[Baranov] The staff of the internal affairs organs guarantee public order, and if the lawbreakers do not understand persuasion, then force is used and these people are physically taken to the internal affairs premises. Moreover, the new law has made it possible to detain them for up to 3 days in certain places, pending examination by the court.

[Fedorov] That is, the militia was acting properly, professionally, and within the bounds of the law?

[Baranov] Not only within the bounds of the law, but also in a very restrained manner, trying right up to the very last moment, on the 21st, to advise against and avert this antisocial mass action. When they realized that this was impossible, that people did not understand common sense, they used force and acted strictly within the bounds of the law. Democracy is, first and foremost, no licence, but rigorous compliance with the law. This is, of course, not anarchy. I stress once again: legality and democracy are indivisible. [end recording]

Docker Quits 'People's Front,' Cites Reasons

PM2308152188 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 21 Aug 88 Second Edition p 2

["Letter To the Editorial Office" from V. Pesterev, docker at Vladivostok commercial port and former member of the "People's Front for Promoting Restructuring": "Why I Left the 'People's Front'"]

[Text] At the last meeting that I attended I stated that I was leaving the coordinating council but that I was reserving the right to have my say in the press. Everything had begun very promisingly. The constituent meeting proclaiming the creation of the new organization, the "People's Front for Promoting Restructuring" was held on 9 June in Vladivostok. An eloquent title with no need of interpretation. It is no secret that there are conservative forces in both society and the party. The braking mechanism will not be smashed if the broadest masses do not rise to the struggle for renewal. The "People's Front" could promote this and could help the party. Its creation was greeted with tremendous delight, for people were itching to come to grips with the business in hand. I immediately joined the main body that had formed spontaneously and, as a member of the coordinating council, I took part in meetings, talked about our activity to the port's dockers, and canvassed my friends. But almost from the start I began to think: Where are we headed?

I will start by saying that the process itself of forming the "front" occurred in a terrible rush. This was manifested in literally everything. Even in the fact that the organization was proclaimed without having a well thought-out action program and with a poor idea of its forms and methods of work. Admittedly, voices were heard at the constituent session calling for the following questions to be immediately and clearly determined: Who are we? What are we? What do we want? But these voices were not heard in the atmosphere of universal euphoria. Yet there were plenty of passionate exclamations as follows: "We've done it! I've waited all my life for this day!..." One particularly impatient comrade darted off to the post office and dashed off a telegram to Moscow announcing the existence of the "front"....

At first, as you can understand, I myself felt emotionally uplifted. However, the feverish haste also continued later when the situation should have been assessed soberly. The organization's basic documents—its program, regulations, and declaration—were compiled in 2 days. This was half the trouble. Suddenly varying versions of these documents appeared, versions, moreover, containing extremely essential differences and contradictory points. They were all signed by the "People's Front"!

Something enigmatic here? Nothing of the kind. The numerous groupings from which the coordinating council was formed at a stroke—ecologists and members of informal groups of various persuasions—compiled their drafts. Then how bitterly they began to defend them against each other as if fighting an enemy for an inch of their native soil. Finally they sorrowfully reached a compromise. It seemed that mutual understanding was being established. But when they opened the documents the compilers once again began to squeeze in "their" points by fair means or foul....

Here I must say a few words about the people who stood at the head of the movement: I will not name them in case of possibly causing them trouble. No one elected these people, who are indisputably very energetic and active—the main body took shape of its own accord. Their persistence evoked respect. But I gradually began to notice that it was not the essence of the activity that was important in the council's prevailing work style but the organizational process itself, talk for talk's sake. This was shown particularly graphically at the meeting at the railroad workers' Palace of Culture. It was also prepared in an atmosphere of "inner-circle secrecy" [apparatnaya sekretnost]—several members of the council on their own initiative and without the knowledge of the other comrades (a flagrant violation of the regulations that had just been adopted) photocopied one of the versions of the declaration and circulated it throughout the city, together with an invitation for the inhabitants to attend the next meeting. At the appointed time several dozen people gathered near the Palace of Culture. Neither the administration nor the overwhelming majority of the members of the People's Front had suspected what kind of "event" was in store. A CPSU Gorkom employee came to the rescue: After assessing the situation, he reached an agreement with the leaders of the palace and got us the use of the hall.

What did the invitees see? Nothing of interest, I can assure you: a group of people in the middle of the hall whispering among themselves, people who were not ready to talk and who did not even know what to say to the meeting, unable to answer clearly questions from the floor, interrupting and even dragging one another back from the rostrum. As a council member I was acutely ashamed by what was happening. It is not surprising that by the end of the meeting the hall had become quite empty. This is quite understandable, for people had come in the hope of coming into contact with a real living matter and instead heard theorizing by home-grown orators that was reminiscent of the dilettante petite bourgeoisie's "seditious" eloquence in the times of Klim Samgin [allusion unknown]. People have already grown tired of verbiage....

Sometimes I was asked whether particular reactionary tendencies like the notorious "Pamyat" appeared in the "front." I can assure you that there was nothing of the sort. Nor was anything said against restructuring at any of the meetings and nor was there any suggestion of any nationalist ideas. But I think that vacuous talk and demagoguery are as dangerous today as blatant opposition.

"What specifically will your 'front' do?"—my docker comrades asked me. This is a most natural question, but it invariably provoked confusion at meetings of the

coordinating council. We support the party but we didn't even discuss the course and results of the 19th all-union party conference, as if we hadn't noticed the approach of the report and election campaign on which the fate of restructuring depends to a large extent. In our program we proclaimed the main areas of our activity, but in 3 months we just didn't get round to practically implementing them. Why is this organization necessary at all?

Our organization could have reacted promptly to the social processes that were subject to hourly changes and could have become a kind of "social first aid service." I won't take any wide-ranging actions because serious preparation must be made for them. Today we could, in various forms prescribed by the law, combat bureaucracy, defend the fighters of restructuring, publicize instances where criticism has been suppressed, raise questions of social justice, and rouse public opinion. It seemed that the failure of the meeting in the railroad workers' Palace of Culture would compel the "founding fathers" to review their positions. But—amazingly!—they pretended that nothing had happened.

Given such an uncritical attitude toward themselves, it is difficult to expect change. Anarchy continued to reign in the organization, just as in the fable about the swan, the crayfish, and the pike. No one was even clearly aware of how many and which organizations were grouped under the "umbrella of the 'front'." The total lack of coordination in the actions of the council members was striking: On the one hand you had factionalism and secrecy when resolving questions; and on the other, "freebooting" and insubordination to regulations. This, of course, did not help enlist fresh healthy forces in our ranks despite the vast number of people wishing to assist restructuring. New people came to the council meetings. Having sat for a while, like at a bazaar, they went away again never to return, after having had no chance to affect the course of the discussion and events.

The "founding fathers" simply took no notice of this. I think that both then and now their only interest was their own ambitions.

My final decision to leave the "front" was made after I saw that the organization was becoming bureaucratic not only in substance but also in form. I will use an extremely typical example to explain. In the beginning the "front" council took shape spontaneously, then it became necessary for its composition to accord with the organization's regulations. This democratic necessity was also at variance with the ideas of the group of "founding fathers." By this time they had in effect usurped the right to resolve any question. They obviously had no desire to share this right, standing up for the elitism of the leading core. A "People's Front" cut off from the people? An administrative-edict system waving the flag of democracy? When it was pointed out to one of the "founding fathers" that the position of the leading group was directly at variance with the regulations, he replied: How are we to heed the regulations all the time? Comment is superfluous here, as they say....

The question arises: So what lies ahead? A broad people's movement of restructuring engineers or a sect of people fighting to establish their own ambitions? A sect jauntily astride the wave of change, hoping to launch itself on the crest of the wave into the heavenly firmament, falsely awarding itself the title of "people's"? In my opinion, which is based on personal observation, we are faced with the rapid degeneration of the projected—only projected—mass movement into just such a sect. I will not begin to pass judgment on the way this process is going in the country's other cities. But I am firmly convinced that the present Vladivostok version of the "People's Front" has nothing to do with restructuring and democratization.

I want the people remaining in the "People's Front" to understand my meaning: I do not wish this organization ill. I would very much like to hope that it is simply experiencing growing pains. But in that case I would never have left the "front." In my opinion, the problem is much more serious. Now when society is only just learning democracy, the danger of reverting to the familiar rut is too great. This danger is evident. I read the casuistic pearls of one of the documents: "Behind the inoffensive claims to guarantee equal rights and status to any citizen who joins the People's Front for Promoting Restructuring, you can trace people's incomprehension of the anarchical nature of these demands.... Whenever everyone is given equality, but equality that is not protected by the law of this association...sooner or later the most powerful person will gain the upper hand."

So is democracy for everyone impossible? Is it only possible for the elite? Apparently, that is the case, and I quote: "The essence of the Stalinist system is none other than Bakunin-style anarchism.... Stalin's repressions were rooted in the petty bourgeois degeneration of the party on the basis of anarchism." Let us leave this bombastic language and historical ignorance on the authors' conscience. But the logic of their arguments is clear: Anarchy (for anarchy, read democracy) will return us to the Procrustean bed of the administrative system. Consequently, salvation lies in...centralizing authority and rigidly controlling the "people." By hook or by crook, as they say.... That is why I deem it necessary to publicize my viewpoint and warn people who are joining and will join the "People's Front": Test the words of the leaders against their specific actions.

Finally, one last point. Disappointment in what is being presented as "the first shoots of the new" comes as a bitter blow. But I am not at all thinking about losing heart. I know that there are people like me who would like to make the movement in support of restructuring really a movement—and a true people's movement at

that. I still don't know the form in which we are to make use of the unexpended charge of vigor. At least let us not remain on the sidelines of the creative work that the party has begun.

New Azerbaijan KGB Chairman Named
PM2308153388 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 13 Aug 88 p 1

["Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree on the Appointment of Comrade I.I. Gorelovskiy as Chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR KGB" with unattributed biographical note]

[Text] The Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves:

To appoint Comrade Ivan Ivanovich Gorelovskiy chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR KGB.

[Signed] S. Tatliyev, chairman of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Presidium

R. Kaziyeva, secretary of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Presidium

Baku, 11 August 1988 [Decree text ends]

Ivan Ivanovich Gorelovskiy, chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR KGB. Born 1942, Russian, from a workers family; CPSU member; has higher education; graduate of the CPSU Central Committee Higher Party School; a major general; CPSU Central Committee executive staffer 1979-1986.

Pogosyan: Nagorno-Karabakh 'Lesson' for All
PM2308131688 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 33, 14 Aug 88 p 3

[Genrikh Pogosyan "Political Diary" article: "Karabakh: A Way to Understanding"]

[Text] The Nagorno-Karabakh lesson. This phrase has become a commonplace. Many read different meanings into it because their views on what happened in the past and on today's difficulties differ.

Glossing over difficulties and controversies does not eliminate them, so I was outspoken at the recent session of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and with Mikhail Gorbachev several days before it.

Some people are interested in portraying residents of Nagorno-Karabakh as people in the thrall of extremists. This view of the situation warrants corresponding conclusions. It is much harder to imagine though that talking about rights, trying to substantiate them is not necessarily nationalism.

Can you divide people into right and wrong simply because some openly defend their views while others keep silent? The cultural and economic interests of the region's Armenian population were restricted. Karabakh Armenians were frowned upon if they visited Armenia. District committee secretaries were advised against such trips. The regional party committee secretary, they said, never so much as turned his face towards Armenia even in his sleep.

Today it is simple to blame the distortions in the nationalities policy all on the region's former leader Kevorkov and the republic's leader Bagirov. Easy but hardly sensible.

Could the people of Nagorno-Karabakh in recent years lose faith in the authorities, become sceptical and consider the most correct decisions on the complex Karabakh issue a lot of hot air? Isn't this the reason for the rejection of the initial decisions vis-a-vis the autonomous region and the guarded response to remarks about the conflict at the 19th party conference?

How can one convince the people that the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium's latest decision (adopted on July 18) is acceptable? How can one convince them that strikes, noisy rallies and civil disobedience won't hasten the realization of the hopes long held by Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh and in Armenia?

Returning home after the session of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet I thought: It is essentially a return to the democratic principles in the national question. Democratic principles because arbitrariness reigned for decades with respect to this question. With the stroke of a pen, ethnic populations were shifted from one place to another, autonomous republics disappeared or appeared, cities and regions were transferred from one republic to the next. Signing pieces of paper was much easier than finding solutions acceptable to the people involved and helping them to implement these solutions. An official's ill will, wickedness, or his likes and dislikes could alter the destinies of whole nations. Chances are therefore that Nagorno-Karabakh is also an attempt to find a mechanism to prevent this sort of distortions.

To me the fact that all industries are working again while the farmers never stopped speaks for itself. Yes, it has taken a lot of explaining that the main thing has been achieved: The doors between Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia have been swung wide open. A grain elevator, new housing and a housing construction combine will be built—things the region was denied in the past—and this is also very important. The people had to be told about the great powers granted to Comrade Volskiy, the special representative of the CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region. Based in the region's capital, Stepanakert, he can summon any union minister and adapt any decision made by the republic's authorities. Given his broad powers it should not be difficult to invest the 400 million roubles allotted for construction and social programmes over the next seven years. Our local construction organizations build at the rate of 20

million roubles a year at best. Builders from Armenia have decided to give us a hand with the construction of roads, housing and a new airport building.

Being a boss has never been easy. In our situation it is doubly difficult. For a party organizer it is a great right to be able to look people in the eye. Having said the things I did at the Presidium session in Moscow, I can now face my people with a clear conscience.

I've read all the reports on developments in Nagorno-Karabakh. There were correct and bitter articles. But many seemed written to order. There were reports about some dark forces leading the workers of Stepanakert, about workers who refused to be duped. But during those months there weren't workers, teachers and farmers—there were people united by one idea. Some journalists came to me to say good-bye because they thought it would be fairer not to write anything at all. This is food for thought in this time of glasnost when being honest before society is the most essential thing.

Perestroyka requires the utmost cohesion—this was the essence of Mikhail Gorbachev's address at the session of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. For party leaders this means having a clear view of the situation and letting other people see it. They should see not only resolutions printed in newspapers but also something really done. Some 130 school graduates are off to enroll at higher schools in Armenia. It has been decided to build food factories so that shop counters in the farming region will no longer stand empty.

We have started on our difficult road toward understanding. We are seeking to understand not just what happened during these several months. Nagorno-Karabakh is a lesson not only to those who were caught in this bitter experience. It is a lesson to everybody who lives in this multinational country.

Monument Restoration Fund for Nagorno-Karabakh
NC2308135588 Yerevan Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] The Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments of the Armenian SSR has set up the Artsakh Monetary Fund for the purpose of assisting in the preservation and restoration of Armenian monuments in Nagorno-Karabakh. Contributions can be made to the Yerevan City Administration Branch of the [name indistinct] Bank in the name of the society, account number 700,300, with the notation: For the Artsakh Fund.

Radio Liberty Broadcast on Sumgait 'Biased'
LD2308175788 Moscow TASS in English 1638 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—TASS correspondent Vladimir Itkin writes:

Radio Liberty decided to comment on my interview of Aleksandr Katusev, deputy prosecutor-general of the USSR, about the investigation on the events in Sumgait. It was published in the newspaper IZVESTIYA on August 18 under the title "Public Prosecutor's Office Continues the Investigation".

In the material about KGB's inquiry into the developments in Sumgait broadcast by the Liberty on August 20 in Azerbaijani commentator Asker Borchaliy made a mistake from the outset by mixing up these two utterly different establishments. But discrepancies were not limited to this.

The commentator read out literally the following: Security bodies officials were among the arrested whose number runs into 94. Therefore it is difficult to define who is guilty of killing 32 people.

As the person who was the interviewer I state that there was nothing of this kind in the newspaper. Millions of readers of IZVESTIYA as well as of republican newspapers in Armenia and Azerbaijan which published the interview can also confirm this.

One more absurdity from the broadcast: According to the available information, the bureau of the Office of the Prosecutor-General turned over the cases of military representatives, who failed to discharge their duties, to the court.

The interview did not have it either. Aleksandr Katusev said the following concerning this fabrication: "It is said in my interview that militiamen, who failed promptly to take decisive measures to establish order and protect citizens' security in extreme conditions, really appeared to be not up to the mark in the days that were tragic for Sumgait. The public prosecutor's office of the USSR was forced to institute criminal proceedings against militiamen. The investigation was launched on the basis of Article 169 of the Criminal Code of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic, which provides for criminal responsibility for negligence".

I do not know who was the author of the biased, to put it mildly, information which was let go into the air. But the yearning for the time that went into history as the cold war years was clearly heard in the voice of commentator Asker Borchaliy.

Yerevan Public Order Violators Said Punished
NC2408082688 Yerevan Domestic Service in Russian 0530 GMT 24 Aug 88

[From the review of KOMMUNIST]

[Text] The paper also publishes an interview by a NOVOSTI correspondent on the state of ecology in the republic; a report from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Armenian SSR on the punishment of those who on

17 and 18 August violated public order in the Yerevan city soviet building, when they attempted to inflame passions and arouse unhealthy emotions; as well as other material.

Academician Critically Views Nationality Policy
AU2308123288 Kiev RADYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian 20 Aug 88 p 1

[Unattributed report: "How To Learn to Live Together"]

[Text] General interest in problems concerning relations among nationalities is a distinctive mark of the times. This interest was also manifested during a recent meeting held by RADYANSKA UKRAINA journalists with a visitor to the editorial board, Doctor of Philosophical Sciences Eduard Aleksandrovich Bagramov, sector chief in the Institute of Marxism-Leninism under the CPSU Central Committee.

While summing up the lessons learned in the times of digression from the Leninist principles of the nationality policy, E. Bagramov noted a feature which was common for social scientists and practical propagandists, including journalists.

"For a long time we all took delight in commenting, and achieved a great deal in the sphere of panegyrical speeches."

Radical restructuring, therefore, is essential. The practice of absolutizing the results achieved in settling the nationality problem, and the idea that relations among nationalities are free from problems have to be given up. The direction of movement has been determined by the 19th all-union party conference during which, as the speaker pointed out, a Leninist discussion on this subject was held for the first time in 65 years, and which passed a resolution "On Relations Among Nationalities."

To achieve changes, the errors of the past—both the old and the recent ones—must not be repeated. The events involving Nagorno-Karabakh did not leave anyone unconcerned. Under the complex circumstances, the helplessness of those who should have controlled the situation was particularly impressive. This was a result of the ideological disarmament brought about by the years-long habit of treating the nationality problem with precaution: "Everything has been settled here! Keep away! Better look toward positive facts!"

E. Bagramov examined basic trends in developing relations among nationalities, dwelled on the ways of combining what is national with what is international, and on the role and the place of relations among nationalities in the field of state construction. He warned against the underestimation of spiritual factors manifested in the treatment of the nationality problem in the recent period.

In recent times RADYANSKA UKRAINA has published a number of materials on problems concerning the development of the Ukrainian language. These materials brought about numerous responses on the part of the readers who came out for continuing the discussion.

The journalists took advantage of the meeting and asked E. Bagramov to state his opinion about the questions touched upon by the readers.

"I am familiar with the statements made by your republic's cultural figures on the language policy. Their anxiety is natural," E. Bagramov pointed out. "In my opinion, the main thing is to thoroughly examine the causes, and to find the way out of the situation that has emerged. What is needed are not declarations or instructions, but scientifically substantiated recommendations. This is what we are working on."

In the opinion of the social scientist, the principle of native-Russian bilingualism ensures the settlement of the problem. What matters is implementing this principle in an harmonious and natural way.

Regarding the proposal to grant the local native language the status of official language, E. Bagramov said:

"In my personal opinion, this is not advisable because it would imply a certain compulsion, particularly concerning representatives of other nations who live in the republic."

The social scientist declared himself in favor of the principle of free will in choosing the language, pointing out that what he meant was not the "free will" referred to by some short-sighted parents who think they relieve their offspring of the additional burden of studying the local native language.

"I would not restrict the parents in freely settling this question," E. Bagramov pointed out. "But in this respect it is highly important to 'educate the educators.' Generally speaking, here is the correct way to pose this point: If you live, for example, in the Ukraine, know the Ukrainian language. This is a question of internal culture, of ethics. For example, as far as the sphere of services and constant contacts with the great masses of people are concerned, it is advisable to somehow encourage for a certain time the knowledge of the local native language. After all, we do that with foreign languages."

It was probably not by chance that the discussion with the social scientist repeatedly returned to problems concerning the creation of a reliable mechanism of the nationality policy and of its regulation. The nonexistence of such a mechanism in practice has proved to be harmful. Social scientists are seriously disturbed by the state and organization of research in the country that

does not possess a scientific center for the study of topical problems concerning relations among nationalities. It is essential to expand scientific research and information in this sphere.

The participants of the conversation held in the editorial board's premises were unanimous that party organizations and the Communists of all nationalities are called upon, as the resolution of the 19th party conference reads, to be the binding force, the soul of the socialist union of peoples, and active conductors of internationalism.

Access to 'Special Stocks' Books Now 'Easier'

LD2308225588 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1400 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow, 23 Aug (TASS)—Virtually all foreign periodicals have been transferred to library stocks accessible to any Soviet reader, a TASS correspondent was told by Vladimir Solidin, member of the Collegium of the USSR Council of Minister's chief directorate for preserving state secrets in the press (Glavlit SSR). He heads the commission set up more than a year ago which is engaged in transferring books from the closed, so-called "special stocks" to those generally accessible.

"Painstaking research to rehabilitate books began with works whose authors were illegally repressed," Vladimir Solodin said. "Following the restoration of the good name of political and public figures, their creative heritage is now also being returned to the people. This heritage is quite a considerable one. Nikolay Bukharin, for example, wrote 180 books and brochures, and Aleksandr Rykov wrote about 70."

The memoirs of Kerenskiy, Milyukov, Krasnov, and Savikov have been transferred to the list of freely available books. When the party issued these books in the 1920's it was certain of the correctness of its ideas and did not fear the counterarguments of political opponents.

"By October, when our project is planned to be completed, about 500 books will remain in the special stocks," Solodin said. In reply to a question about whether special stocks will continue to exist, he replied that they would. "Just as in many other countries, they will exist to hold information containing state and military secrets."

Solodin noted that access to the special stocks had been made considerably easier. For example, members of the creative unions can work there after presenting their membership cards. In a number of libraries this is already being done, particularly in the Lenin USSR State Library in Moscow.

'Topical Lens' Cites Persecution Under Brezhnev

LD2408054788 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1930 GMT on 23 August carries its "Topical Lens" program, entitled "A Group of Comrades." The 30-minute program deals with some figures in recent Soviet history who, the program implies, suffered undeserved fates after getting into conflicts with the authorities.

The program begins with scenes showing a church interior and a funeral procession, accompanied by choral music. Writer (Daniil Gran) then speaks of the ruthlessness which exists in certain types of people who are numb to human qualities such as pity. He says: "This was of course the terrible calamity of those years; and I don't know how to get rid of it, how to fight against it. I only know one thing—that you have to talk about it, you have to think about those occurrences. They must be shown; people must see how easily hearts can be broken." While (Gran) speaks, the camera shows men marching in prison uniform, dead leaves scattered on the ground, and finally, a Russian Orthodox gravestone.

Sculptor Vadim Sidur lived from 1924 to 1986. Specimens of his work are shown and the narrator says: "The fate of Sidur is similar to those of such great writers as Pilnyak, Babel, Platonov, and Bulgakov." The narrator points out that many great artists are appreciated only after their deaths. "The tragic fate of Sidur confirms the age-old truth that a prophet is without honor in his own country."

Professor (Viktor Daniilovich Belkin) then talks about an experiment carried out by the economist Ivan Khudenko. Belkin had been sent to observe by the newspaper LITERATURNAYA GAZETA. It was an experiment oriented towards final output, he says. Labor productivity increased sixfold and workers' earnings threefold. At this point archive footage is shown of Leonid Brezhnev being driven in an open-topped car through the streets lined with waving crowds. Belkin goes on: "The appratus of the ministry could not reconcile itself to Khudenko's workers getting R300 per month while heads of department of that apparatus were at that time getting R250 to R270. And the apparatus could not reconcile itself to the fact that the flow of paper to which they owed their jobs had been destroyed. Let's look at the mechanism used by the bureaucrats and dogmatists to destroy this thing which was promising for the country. The initator suggested repeatedly to his highly-placed patron, the author of the work 'Virgin Land' [Leonid Brezhnev], that Khudenko was a swindler, that all his experiments were a sham, and that he had to be gotten rid of. His bank account had to be immediately sequestered and his farm closed down. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev could not fail to share this with Kunayev. Khdenko's punishment ensued. He was accused of attempting to embezzle on a particularly large scale. He was arrested and sentenced, and he died in prison in 1974.

"If we had adopted Khudenko's methods, $200 billion spent on buying foodstuffs and $300 billion spent on capital investment in agriculture would have been saved

over that period of time. This means that the food program would have been solved by now and the housing program which is intended for the year 2000 would have been implemented."

Further film is then shown of Brezhnev addressing an audience that is clapping enthusiastically. This switches to a circus ring where a clown rides on the back of a pig, a cow jumps over hurdles, and a clown dances with a goat. Then the video switches back to the standing ovation in the auditorium. The sequence ends with a shot of a document certifying Khudenko's death and a still photograph of the man which changes into a photographic negative.

The narrator says: "How many of our leaders, perhaps not themselves wanting to of course, have become murderers? Murders have been committed outside the jurisdiction of the law—there are those who have suffered heart attacks, those who have suffered strokes, those who, you understand, were broken. How many such murders have been carried out—murders not subject to the law?"

There follows a scene in which the deaths of the poets Akhmatova, Pasternak, Tsvetayeva, Mandelshtam, and Mayakovskiy are lamented. It is suggested that in life they were treated with contempt, while since their deaths they have been revered.

An excerpt is read from a letter by the film director Andrey Tarkovskiy to his father. In it he said he did not choose the role of an exile: "I am not a dissident. I am an artist who has contributed his bit to the treasure house of Soviet cinema."

The program ends with scenes of convicts marching, a released prisoner greeting and embracing an older man, and scenes of a church interior. The sequence is accompanied by choral music.

Andreyeva Criticizes Ulyanov Conference Speech

PM2308131488 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 33, 14 Aug 88 p 2

[From the "Letters to the Editor" column: "The Return of Nina Andreyeva"]

[Text] We recently received a letter from Nina Andreyeva (whose article "I Can't Give Up My Principles" in "SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA", March 13, provoked so much discussion). Andreyeva's letter to us was actually meant for Mikhail Ulyanov, the outstanding actor and one of the delegates to the 19th party conference.

"Dear Mikhail Alexandrovich, I saw you on TV in the speakers' box at the party conference and read your address in PRAVDA. I felt sorry for all of you who 'have been taken by surprise', 'dumbfounded', 'scared to death', who 'were shaking in their boots but waiting patiently, obediently and with a feeling of doom' for the pointing finger of the 'poor old chemist-alchemist', you who are unable to distinguish 'who's white, who's red'. Of course, this fear is understandable in you who are so zealously and hurriedly 'squeezing by droplets the slave out of themselves'. But how could you, a famous and, I think, talented actor who played heroic Soviet figures, so disgrace yourself? I imagined that to play a hero means being somewhat a hero yourself. Sadly heroism on stage and fear in real life seem to mix well in some people. Considering that further similar stresses might be bad for your health—I mean more 'bitter and sinister' articles in the press—I would be glad to meet you in Leningrad sometime and discuss the things that so disturbed you. Naturally without 'standing at attention' and 'the confounded fear that sits in our genes'."

Nina Andreyeva, 2 July 1988, Leningrad

Mikhail Ulyanov said answering Andreyeva's letter was out of the question. He explained: "As I said at the party conference, I still think that what really matters is not Andreyeva but those who are behind her. It is with them that one can engage in a debate. But they, unfortunately, prefer not to voice their opinion directly. I have neither the time nor the desire to start up a correspondence with Andreyeva."

Ulyanov may be right about Andreyeva.

Mikhail Ulyanov was right in stating at the conference that more disturbing than Andreyeva is the reflex of fear and obedience acquired by our people during the years of the administrative-command system. Perhaps it is because of this reflex that we prefer not to remember Andreyeva's anonymous letters. Andreyeva is against perestroyka. She is trying to turn the clock back. Her attempt is doomed to fail. This is becoming obvious to increasing numbers of people. In her heart Andreyeva may know this. Fearing we may forget her, she is constantly returning to remind us that she exists.

MVD Official Interviewed on Crime, Terrorism

LD2308134488 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1440 GMT 22 Aug 88

[From "The World Today" program, presented by Georgiy Zubkov]

[Excerpt] [Zubkov] During this period of glasnost, figures are being published on crime in our country. Last year more than 115,000 people were convicted for theft of public property; and for theft of personal property, nearly 123,500 people. Drug-related crime has gone up: Last year nearly 27,000 such crimes were committed. As for illegal distilling, the USSR State Committee for Statistics provides the following figures: 2,000 people were convicted in 1985 for illegal distilling, while last year there were more than 6,000. Particularly disquieting is the fact that every 10th criminal in our country is a minor. Now let us return to the UN Crime Prevention and Control Committee session. Taking part in the

session's work is Soviet representative Vasiliy Petrovich Ignatov, head of a USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs administration. Our correspondent (Sergey Pustovoyt) intervewed him for "The World Today" program.

[Begin recording] [(Pustovoyt)] Tell me, in what ways is the Soviet Union coordinating its law enforcement activities with foreign states?

[Ignatov] Cooperation with foreign countries is being implemented under a broad program. This applies first of all to the government level. Then there are the activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, to a greater extent, departmental cooperation among law enforcement organs, organs of the procuracy, the Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs. We have concluded many agreements in this area, primarily with socialist countries, but cooperation contacts with Western countries are also expanding. As you know, a memorandum was recently concluded with the UK for mutual assistance in combating drug trafficking.

[(Pustovoyt)] Tell me, how do you view the prospects for developing mutual relations between our law enforcement organs and Interpol?

[Ignatov] The question of cooperation with Interpol has now become very fashionable. It has been covered on more than one occasion in the press. One cannot give an unequivocal reply here—no, this would be wrong. In the first place, we must make a far-reaching evaluation and analysis of the problems on which we could cooperate with Interpol. We are now deeply involved in this question, and in the near future the appropriate decision will clearly be taken. We must analyze, primarily from the viewpoint of work effectiveness, the extent to which those problems, those types of crimes that Interpol deals with, are characteristic of our country. I have in mind, primarily, organized international crime and international terrorism.

[(Pustovoyt)] You have touched on the question of international crime. There have recently been many reports in the press on this subject. These press reports actually reflect the fact that our organs are often poorly prepared to fight it. As is well known, Western countries have gained substantial experience in resolving these problems. What plans do our law enforcement organs have in this area?

[Ignatov] We are now conducting a thorough study of this question. Special subdivisions are now going to be organized both at the ministry and in the localities for fighting organized crime.

[(Pustovoyt)] You mean the Ministry of Internal Affairs?

[Ignatov] Yes, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the corresponding ministries and departments of internal affairs in the localities. The scope for cooperation in this is very wide; we can learn something from other countries.

[(Pustovoyt)] Tell me, how effective is international cooperation in fighting terrorism?

[Ignatov] There are now many bilateral and multilateral agreements between states for cooperation in fighting terrorism. National legislation should mete out equal retribution to criminals who have attempted or committed a terrorist act so that everyone who entertains such a notion clearly knows that, no matter what country he ends up in as the result of, say, hijacking an aircraft, the most serious liability awaits him equally everywhere. I think that in the current committee session our work will also be crowned with the elaboration of new documents on this matter.

[(Pustovoyt)] Thank you. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Reform of Public Education System Discussed

LD2208224988 Moscow TASS in English 1933 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 22 TASS—The Soviet public education system is not left outside the process of democratization of various spheres of life of Soviet society. District and city councils for public education are to play an active part in it. A draft document on their creation has been submitted for discussion by the USSR State Committee for Public Education.

A council will be a public and state body. It will include deputies of local soviets, scientific workers, cultural personalities, education workers, party and trade union activists and pupils. It will participate in law- making. District departments for public education existing today will be the executive bodies of the councils. The purpose of the councils will be to promote the development of the public education system of their respective regions with due account for local socio-economic conditions, national characteristic features, cultural and historical traditions. They will create education development funds by drawing into it the money coming from local government bodies, industrial enterprises and organizations, as well as voluntary donations of citizens. Assistance to families in the upbringing of children and concern for teachers will be an important part of their work.

"In my opinion, it is important to draw the public into the solution of problems facing public education", Yevgeniy Yamburg, director of Moscow School No. 109, said in a TASS interview. "Schools could receive in this way powerful financial support and assistance in the development of their material base. A competent council will undoubtedly support the creative activities of teachers and protect them from the bureaucratic attacks of administrative workers. This will permit the development of pedagogical pluralism. The knowledge of the overall requirements and possibilities of the region will enable the councils to tackle more rationally the problem of the creation of various types of schools, and children will have greater opportunities to choose a school for themselves in accordance with their interests and abilities".

He added that real life would show if the best way to draw the public into the solution of the school's problems had been found. "Some of them will need organizational, financial and legal support. For instance, the role and the sphere of responsibility of the school director should be formulated most clearly in connection with the activities of the council", he said.

The draft document on district and city councils for public education will be discussed at August pedagogical readings and at the all-union congress of public education workers due to be held next December.

Author-Funded Books Step Toward 'Democratizing'
LD2008164488 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 20 TASS—TASS correspondent Roman Grigoryev writes:

One more step was taken in the Soviet Union towards democratizing the publishing activity: The first books were brought out on authors' funds. Several months ago, this right was given to everyone who is confident in the success of his or her work.

The idea of publishing books on authors' money had been aired a long time ago. The proposals were made both by professional writers (especially young), and non-professional, scientists and specialists. Their wishes were met. The green light was given to publishing books of all genres with the exception of those which are aimed against the existing system, propagandize war, violence, national enmity, racial or national exclusiveness.

Those willing to publish works on one's own funds appeared to be not so few. About 200 applications were received in Moscow now.

The publication of books on authors' funds is one of many measures to democratize the publishing activity effected in the USSR during perestroyka (restructuring). The practice of electing rather than appointing directors of publishing houses, filling senior executive positions by contest is being asserted on an increasingly broader scale. The rights of publishers' themselves have been extended. They now make and endorse plans themselves, have the right to make decisions on the number and size of editions.

The USSR is one of the world's largest publishers. Over 80,000 titles of books and pamphlets, whose total edition exceeds two billion copies, are brought out here annually. More than a half of these editions are belles-lettres. However, the shortage of books is great: It is not easy to buy books by classics [as received], works by most popular modern authors in stores. At the same time, there is a large number of books on counters, which are not sold out but settle on shelves and in stores. Readers' demand is now thoroughly studied. A special center was set up to this end.

A concept of Soviet book publishing for the next few years was also elaborated. To take off the edge of book shortage, it is envisoned to increase significantly the share of those editions which are especially in high demand. It is supposed to solve the problem of meeting completely the people's demand for books by the end of this century. To this end, specialists calculated, it is necessary that the annual publication of literature be brought to 4-4.5 billion copies.

Conference Provides Forum for Writers' Views

OW1908121088 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0715 GMT on 28 July carries the scheduled 75-minute episode of the "All-Union Readers Conference" series. The conference is being held in Irkutsk and is a culmination of the celebration honoring the journal NASH SOVREMENNIK in that city. The responsible secretary of the local chapter of the writers' organization, Rostislav Filippov, opens the proceedings by introducing the moderator for the evening, Sergey Vasilyevich Vikulov, poet and editor-in-chief of NASH SOVREMENNIK. The video shows the hall, with standing room only, cutting to shots of the rostrum, on which the panel is seated. The panel is composed of the journal's editorial board and frequent contributors.

Vikulov lauds the success of the celebrations in Irkutsk and then provides a brief history of 25 years of the journal. He recalls how difficult it was to attract good authors and critics in the early days of the journal. In order to overcome the initial problems, the journal made a conscious effort to attract relatively unknown provincial authors, he says, adding that the strategy paid off and the journal's success was assured by such writers as F.A. Abramov and V.G. Rasputin. Vikulov then goes on to mention a long list of eminent writers of the past and outline the work of the new younger writers. He ends his introductory remarks by introducing Professor A.I. Ovcharenko, who has his Ph.D. in philological sciences.

Ovcharenko begins by saying that the problem is raised constantly—recently in IZVESTIYA—that contemporary literature is of dubious value since it has been written in the past 20 years; that is, during a time of stagnation. Furthermore, its value is even more questionable since many works have been commissioned. Ovcharenko categorically denies that all contemporary literature is tainted. He mentions a number of writers who deserve to be read by the broad public: Shukshin, Belov, Abramov, and many others.

The young, recently published writer Sergey Alekseyev speaks next. He complains about corruption of the Russian language. Several other authors also make brief appearances, speaking about their work or reading excerpts of their works. I.I. Strelkova, the only woman on the panel, says that the opening of the floodgates of works by emigre and other authors is indeed exciting, but

this phenomenon has stolen the thunder from many Soviet authors whose works deserve better reception and recognition than they receive.

M.N. Lubomudrov, a theater critic, spoke next. In answer to a number of questions about the present state of Russian theater, he says: "In my opinion, the theater belongs to that sphere of our culture in which, with the onset of perestroyka, appearances of stagnation have paradoxically increased. Our contemporary theater is in a very difficult situation. I would even say it is in a state of crisis. If we speak in terms of perestroyka in the theater, then certainly there were many promising signs at the beginning. We expected a spiritual uplift and the airing of acute problems on a broad public scale. But this was not to be." He adds that publications dealing exclusively with the theater are unlikely to carry items that are too candid in their criticisms.

V.G. Rasputin was the next to speak. His speech concentrated on the isolation that Siberia has always felt. With this comes a feeling of inadequacy, no doubt contributed to by the fact that Siberia is the place where criminals are sent and by the image of Siberia in Russian literature, which presents the area as distant, isolated, cold, and full of horror stories. He makes a brief reference to V.V. Rozanov's definition of a patriot. V.V. Rozanov (1856-1919) was a literary critic and a publicist whose works reflected Slavophile ideology and unorthodox religious views. A number of his treatises, seen by some as being anti-Semitic, attracted the attention of Russia's extreme right. Rozanov's works have not been published in the Soviet Union.

M.F. Antonov says that Gorbachev's revelations that the economy in the 1980's is near catastrophic came as a shock. After briefly outlining the development of the Soviet rule in the early years, Antonov concludes that the tragedy of the Soviet Union is that it has confused the imparting of professional knowledge with broad cultural education and exposure. He ends by reminding the audience of Lenin's words at the 11th CPSU Congress that the problem facing them is that "those Communists who are in power now lack culture". He concludes by reminding the audience of the importance of one's roots and moral and spiritual imperatives.

Poet Stanislav Kunayev is asked to comment on the charge by Andrey Voznesenskiy that Kunayev's writings contribute to interethnic discord, a charge printed in full in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA. Kunayev replies: "I feel that presently it is imperative to resist the denationalized rabble, as well as part of the denationalized intelligentsia which we have. We ought to remember that our national awareness was stomped on for decades, and that in the time of perestroyka there is an absolute need to restore this awareness. Without this, we will find it very, very difficult to progress further. There I feel that it is mere demgoguery to attempt to equate this struggle with chauvinism."

The next speaker, Professor A.G. Kuzmin, is asked who on the editorial board of the journal is a member of the Pamyat [Memory] organization. Kuzmin states that none of the editors is a member of Pamyat or is even acquainted with leaders of this organization. He then goes on to recount a recent incident when some 15 people, allegedly members of the Pamyat organization, met at the Central House of Writers and announced a new Pamyat council, which included almost all the members of the journal's editorial staff. This was done without previous consultations and without their permission. Foreign media were quick to pick this up, as did the Soviet media. Kuzmin says this is how unfounded rumors begin.

Author V.P. Astafyev speaks of the importance of being aware of the historic truth. He agrees that a flood of revelations has a negative, depressing effect on readers. He goes on to say that he has now limited himself to reading ancient classics, simply to get away from contemporary literature. However, there is a responsibility to know, and even a greater responsibility to pass this knowledge on to the next generation. Within this context, Solzhenitsyn should be known and read.

Astafyev speaks of the need to restore Russian theater to its former greatness. He speaks of the great traditions of Chekhov and Ostrovskiy. He concludes the program by expressing his confidence that the situation will improve.

Civil Defense Official Speaks on Shelters

LD2208171388 Vilnius Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Zigmas [surname indistinct], employee of the republican civil defense system, is at the microphone:

Everyone must understand clearly that the main means for protecting the population against weapons of mass destruction is to shelter them in civil defense shelters, which are air-raid and [word indistinct] shelters.

After the civil defense early warning signals such as air raid alert, chemical raid alert, and radiation danger, it is necessary to seek shelter and to insure that family members and invalid neighbors are taken to shelters. In order to do this, it is necessary to know beforehand the location of the nearest air-raid shelter or cover [words indistinct].

What does it all look like in practical terms? The most reliable way to protect people against all kinds of modern weapons is to place them in shelters where they can be protected against all casulty-producing elements of a nuclear explosion, as well as against poisonous substances, [words indistinct] high temperatures, and [words indistinct]. Therefore, antiradiation shelters are the main civil defense protection installations. They provide shelter for the entire population of the republic. They protect people against penetrating radiation and

radioactive contamination, including neutron flow, thermal radiation, and the consequences of the blast wave. People who take shelter in antiradiation shelters will not be struck by radiation sickness [words indistinct]. Antiradiation shelters must be built in villages, urban settlements, small towns, and rayon centers. As we have mentioned already, people seeking shelter in them have a chance of survival in them [words indistinct].

Campaign Against Drugs Launched in Turkmenia

LD2208144288 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0745 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Ashkhabad, 22 Aug (TASS)—There was R30,000 worth of yellowing and half-rotten paper notes that had been stored in a cellophane packet in the ground and almost half a kilogram of opium confiscated from N. Rakhmanov, a 35-year-old resident of Ashkhabad. Thus an end has been put to the illegal business of another contrabandist distributing the stupefying poison in Turkmenia. Last year the struggle against drug addiction and its carriers in this Soviet Central Asian republic was stepped up tangibly, with dozens of producers, sellers, and consumers of drugs being caught red-handed.

The situation is made much more complicated by the fact that consuming drugs is traditional in Turkmenia. Since time immemorial, opium, for example, has been used here as an anaesthetic, and children were even "treated" with this dangerous potion.

The drugs are brought into the republic on the whole, as wild, drug-containing crops do not occur here and the local climatic conditions do not make it possible for them to be grown for most of the year. The potion comes in from other regions of the country.

"One break-in in four in the republic is committed by drug users," says Vasiliy Grinin, Turkmenian minister of internal affairs. "It is a mattter of regret that even militia staff have proved to be involved with the circle of drug addicts. One of the most important priority tasks of the republic's law enforcement bodies is to cover over all possible cracks through which the 'white death' poison seeps. At the same time we are striving not only to step up the struggle against drug addiction and the crime that it engenders but also to intensify preventative work and antidrug propaganda in particular."

A special government commission has been set up to coordinate the efforts of state and public organizations in the struggle against drug addiction in Turkmenia. Drug treatment centers have been opened in every oblast and at major industrial enterprises. Courses to train doctors specializing in drug treatment have been organized at the Turkmenian medical institute. Monitoring of the work of pharmacists has been tightened up.

Aral Sea Water Shortage Given 'Top Priority'

LD2208134488 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 22 TASS—Already in the near future the problem of the Aral Sea may tell on the economic activities over a considerable part of Soviet Central Asia. If a drop in its level is not stopped within the next few years, the consequences may prove to be irreversible. To prevent that, an expedition "Aral-88" is being organized. The recommendations of the expedition will be sent for examination by the Soviet Government.

It was noted at a press conference in Moscow today on this subject that there are two ways out. Some scientists continue insisting on the implementation of at least a part of the project rejected by Soviet public of diverting the course of Siberian rivers, others more convincingly propose to reduce the areas sown to cotton in Central Asia, since now cotton is sown up to 80 percent of the best lands. This will lessen the use of water by the Amu-Darya and Syr-Darya. They will return to the Aral Sea. There is also the plan to link the Aral Sea with the Caspian Sea by means of a 280 km canal, but this, as opponents say, will create new problems.

Over the past 30 years the level of the Aral Sea lowered by 13 metres and the area of the sea reduced from 66,000 square kilometres by a third. The former port of Aralsk is now at a distance of 60 kilometres from sea shore. Fishing has stopped.

It was possible to start the efforts to save the Aral Sea even earlier. Already for more than a decade now the more far-sighted specialists sounded alarm about that, but their views were either hushed or muffled by reports on millions of tons of cotton harvested in Uzbekistan in one season and the argument that it was necessary to broaden further the network of irrigation channels. It is only now in conditions of glasnost that the problem of the Aral Sea has been given top priority, the press conference was told by Grigoriy Reznichenko, head of the Aral-88 expedition.

Economic

Light Industry Performance Reported

LD2308113888 Moscow TASS in English 0918 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—TASS economic news analyst Yuriy Stepanov writes:

The output of consumer goods increased by 7 per cent and reached 165,000 million roubles (in retail prices) in the first six months of 1988, as compared with the corresponding period last year. The pace of development of production of non-food commodities increased: in terms of money their output went up by 10 per cent.

For instance, enterprises of the Ministry of the Light Industry of the USSR fulfilled the assignments in the main nomenclature of commodities. The output of light industry finished articles increased, in retail prices, by 3,000 million roubles, or by 8.5 per cent, as compared with the previous year. Meanwhile, practically the whole increment is attributed to a rise in production of "N"-indexed improved quality commodities and most fashionable goods, sold by contractual prices, whereas the output of a number of consumer goods decreased, since most of the manufactured products are not in popular demand.

At the recent session of the USSR Supreme Soviet it was noted that in the past two years of the current five year period the increment in the output of "A" group products in industry surpassed 20 per cent the increment in group "B" production, though the opposite was planned. In a period from 1971 to 1985 the increment in industrial "A" group production amounted to 323,500 million roubles, and the increment in the group "B" production (in comparable showings)—only 102,500 million roubles. The pace of growth of the means of production surpassed by an average of 19 per cent the pace of the output of consumer goods. As a result, the population failed to get a 22,000 million roubles worth of commodities. A shortage of commodities and services has become chronic.

Last year the light industry, specifically, failed to supply a 1,500 million roubles worth of products. In the first six months enterprises, subordinated to national ministries, alone increased the debt by almost 300 million roubles. In July the figure amounted to about 50 million roubles. According to specialists, unsatisfied demand for light industry products now runs into over 8,000 million roubles (1986—2,200 million, 1987—6,400 million roubles).

A package of measures are envisaged in the decision "on measures to increase the production of consumer goods and to accelerate the filling of the market with these goods", adopted by the USSR Council of Ministers a few days ago. Additional measures are planned to be taken to accelerate modernisation of many light industry and food industry enterprises through equipment imports. Heavy industry and defense industry enterprises are to take a broader part in putting out consumer goods. It has also been recommended to carry out broader work in establishing cooperative societies to manufacture consumer goods, in introducing new efficient forms of organisation of labour: team, collective, family, lease, individual contract forms.

Commercial Consultancy Seeks Foreign Clients

LD2308231888 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1232 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow, 23 Aug (TASS)—TASS correspondent Georgiy Meyzerov writes:

A new element created in the process of restructuring foreign economic acitivty in the USSR is the consultancy center of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry. It was established a year ago to provide services to Soviet and foreign enterprises, organizations, and firms interested in developing commercial, scientific-technical, and other forms of international cooperation. The center's services include consultations on questions of the legal regulation of foreign economic relations, market research, selection of possible partners, drafting of documents, and calculations of technical-economic effectiveness of cooperation projects, etc. However, only 10 percent of the 600 organizations using the center's services are foreign. In the opinion of Boris Kozhevnikov, the director of the center, this is primarily connected with the lack of information about its existence and the services it provides. Increasing the number of foreign clients is also hampered by a certain fear on their part of entrusting the solution of their problems to Soviet lawyers. Therefore, the director says, we have started the search for foreign partners by establishing contact with major Western legal and consultancy firms carrying out intermediary functions.

Boris Kozhevnikov believes that not a single Western firm engaged in consultancy can compete with the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry Center on questions concerning the development of foreign economic relations with the USSR. It has practically unlimited opportunities for providing consultation services since it can use any experts needed for fulfilling orders. There are now more than 200 distinguished Soviet lawyers, economic scientists, and experts working in state bodies and economic organizations, collaborating with the center. Services are provided on a personal basis in conditions of strict confidentiality. The network of consultancy centers attached to the appropriate Chambers of Commerce is being expanded: They are now operating in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine, Belorussia, Leningrad, Sverdlovsk (Urals), and Khabarovsk (Far East).

Scientific

Two More Satellites Sent Into Space 23 Aug

'Cosmos-1964' Launched

LD2308140388 Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS—The Soviet Union today launched an earth satellite of the Cosmos series, using a Soyuz booster rocket, to continue exploration of outer space.

Cosmos-1964 has been placed in orbit with the following parameters:
—initial period of revolution—89.4 minutes,
—maximum distance from the earth's surface—297 kilometres,
—minimum distance—216 km,
—inclination of the orbit—70 degrees.

The on-board equipment is functioning normally.

'Cosmos-1965' Launched

LD2408080088 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0741 GMT 24 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow, 24 Aug (TASS)—Another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1965 was launched in the Soviet Union on 23 August 1988 by a "Soyuz" launch vehicle.

The satellite carries a scientific apparatus for continuing research into the earth's natural resources in the interests of various branches of the USSR national economy and of international cooperation.

The satellite has been placed in orbit with the following parameters:
—initial period of revolution—88.7 mins;
—maximum distance from earth's surface—265 km;
—minimum distance—195 km;
—Inclination of orbit—82.3 degrees.

The apparatus on board the satellite is working normally.

'Mir' Cosmonauts Mark 8 Months in Space

LD2208161388 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 22 TASS—It will be eight months tomorrow since Soviet Cosmonauts Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov, the main crew of a lengthy expedition, started working on board the orbital complex "Mir". During their stay in space they have carried out a vast complex of natural science, technological, medical, biological and astrophysical experiments in the interests of various industries of the national economy.

The cosmonauts played host in their "stellar house" to the crew of the second international Soviet-Bulgarian expedition (from June 7 to June 17). Eight days are to go before the launching of the Soviet-Afghan international crew. The cosmonauts on board the "Mir" station prepare to welcome the guests who undergo the training before the launching at the Baykonur cosmodrome now.

When the cosmonauts on board the "Mir" station unloaded the automatic transport ship "Progress-37" in the past week they had to carry over two tons of cargoes. The ship was undocked from the station on August 12. Weightlessness, naturally, helped the cosmonauts to fulfil this difficult work.

The observation of the skies close to Alpha Ophiuchi is of undoubted interest for science. Photography was made with the use of ultraviolet telescope "Glazar". A pulsar in the area of the constallation centaurus is studied by other telescopes of the "Roentgen" observatory.

The cosmonauts, naturally, constantly observe their home planet, earth. The aim of geophysical research conducted on board the station, is specifically, the study of the earth's atmosphere, the getting of the information about the aerosol layer at the altitude of about 100 kilometres.

Medics note that the crew shows a high capacity for work. The routines in which work and rest are rationally alternated, physical exercises on the "mini-stadium" on board, and balanced nutrition play a role in this. Communications sessions during which the cosmonauts get in touch with their families and friends, with their favourite artists, writers, sportsmen, imbue them with optimism and cheerfulness.

Prepare for Soviet-Afghan Flight

LD2308130688 Moscow TASS in Engish 1255 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS —Soviet Cosmonauts Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov are for the 36th week on board the orbital station "Mir".

The crew today conducted explorations under the programme of the international aerospace experiment "Tien Shan—Intercosmos-88." The purpose of this experiment conducted in the interests of geology is, specifically, to perfect long distance probing and means of the studies of areas of high seismicity on earth. Using stationary photo cameras and spectrometric equipment, the cosmonauts took several series of photographs of separate areas of the Soviet Union's territory east of Dushanbe and in the area of the Toktogul reservoir.

The astrophysical research with the use of the orbital observatory "Roentgen" continues. An X-ray pulsar in the small Magellanic cloud has been chosen as the object of observations today.

The cosmonauts will also make today a number of biological experiments, will be preparing scientific equipment for the work under the programme of the Soviet- Afghan flight.

Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov had another health check-up yesterday. It included a comprehensive checking of the cardio-vascular system, the measurement of weight and the assessment of the state of muscles that are little taxed in weightlessness.

The results of the check-up showed that both cosmonauts are well.

The work on the orbit proceeds according to schedule.